

Hafa Adai!

Probable cause found to try firefighter for sexual assault. **PAGE 2**
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75¢

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CPA, Star Marianas talks fail

» **CPA counsel Torres calls SMA president Christian "insincere"**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Negotiations between the Commonwealth Ports Authority and Star Marianas Air Inc. to resolve their lease



Torres

dispute has collapsed, with CPA using strong language to describe SMA president Robert Christian as "insincere" and "disingenuous."

CPA, through counsel Robert T. Torres, wrote SMA counsel Mark A.

Scoggins last Monday, April 12, describing as disappoint-

ing what it characterized as SMA "reneging on its sign of good faith."

Unsurprisingly, Torres said, Christian's claims in the Sen-

See CPA on Page 4

'TEACH A MAN TO FISH...'

Marianas High School sophomore Carmelita Castro helps a fellow student rig his rod and reel during the turnover of fishing equipment to the members of Tasi to Table Inc last Friday at the Kagman High School cafeteria.

JOSHUA SANTOS.

Story on
Page 3



Worldwide COVID-19 death toll tops a staggering 3 million

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—The global death toll from the coronavirus topped a staggering 3 million people Saturday amid repeated setbacks in the worldwide vaccination campaign and a deepening crisis in places such as Brazil, India and France.

See **WORLDWIDE**
on Page 4

The number of lives lost, as compiled by Johns Hopkins University, is about equal to the population of Kyiv, Ukraine; Caracas, Venezuela; or metropolitan Lisbon, Portugal. It is bigger than Chicago



In this April 13, 2021, file photo, the remains of a woman who died from complications related to COVID-19 are placed into a niche by cemetery workers and relatives at the Inahuma cemetery in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

AP

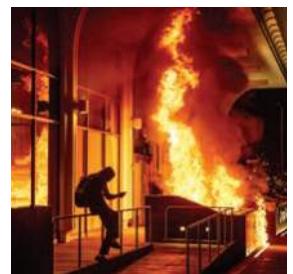
INSIDE



LOCAL

En Mei Huang wins first place in the 8-11 division of the 2021 Toyota Dream Car Art Contest.

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NATION

A protest that began peacefully in California ended with multiple fires set and cars damaged.

PAGE 12



WORLD

At the funeral of Prince Philip on Saturday, Queen Elizabeth cut a regal but solitary figure.

PAGE 13



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GOT A NEWS TIP?

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AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, April 18, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

| Pfizer/BioNTech | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--|--|
| Initiated: | 17,943 | | |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 13,665 | | |
| Moderna | | | |
| Initiated: | 2,794 | | |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 2,121 | | |
| Janssen | | | |
| Fully vaccinated: | 49 | | |

| GUAM | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|---------|
| Positive | 7,856 | 3 | 7,859 |
| Recovered | 7,678 | 4 | 7,682 |
| Active | 38 | 3 | 41 |
| Deaths | 136 | 0 | 136 |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested | | | 147,172 |

| SAIPAN | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|--|-----|-----|---------|
| Positive | 161 | 1 | 162 |
| Traced via Travel Screening | 125 | 1 | 126 |
| Traced via Community Screening | 36 | 0 | 36 |
| Deaths | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested | | | 26,131* |
| Days since last community transmission | | | 33 |

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

No reconsideration in 9 firefighters' termination

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

against the virus that causes COVID-19.

Speaking at a radio news briefing last Friday, Torres said there is no reconsideration since these employees

See **TERMINATION**
on Page 4

One traveler tests positive

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

One traveler tested positive for COVID-19 through testing upon arrival last Thursday, April 15, raising the CNMI's cumulative total to 162.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. said the individual is asymptomatic and is in quarantine at the Kanoa Resort in Susupe. The CHCC Communicable Disease Investigation/Inspection team has initiated contact tracing for contacts with the highest risk of exposure.

CHCC also announced that See **TRAVELER** on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor



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Local

Probable cause found to try firefighter for sexual assault

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Superior Court has found probable cause to try a firefighter who has been accused of sexually assaulting a co-worker while intoxicated.

During a preliminary hear-

ing last Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho found probable

cause to try Peter Litulumar, 45, for sexual assault in the second degree.

The victim in the case took the stand last Friday to testify about the alleged assault, stating that it is a practice in the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services for firefighters to make jokes that may be construed as sexual but no one has crossed the line like Litulumar allegedly did. The victim told the court that Litulumar crossed that line when he caressed her body while she was taking a nap during her break time and even went as far as rubbing himself against her.

Following the hearing, Litulumar was ordered to return to court on April 20 for his arraignment and was remanded back to the Department of Corrections.

Bail modification has yet to be granted for Litulumar because Camacho also denied his request to be released to his sister as third-party custodian.

Camacho cited that a young female minor resides in the house of the defendant's sister.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the alleged incident happened last April 5 at the Mariana Resort & Spa

in Marpi, which the CNMI government is using as a quarantine facility for arriving passengers from Guam. The victim said that Litulumar had just arrived for work and allegedly told the victim that he had a couple of rounds of beer and was feeling "drunk."

After lunch, the victim said she took a nap during her break time. The victim said she later woke up to Litulumar allegedly caressing her through her sleeping bag. Litulumar allegedly also sat on her legs below her buttocks, took his pants off, and leaned forward, repeatedly touching her. When she looked back at him, the victim said all Litulumar had on was his uniform and boxers.

The victim alleges that the assault lasted about five minutes while she repeatedly told Litulumar to get off of her. She eventually managed to crawl out of her sleeping bag and run out of the room.

DFEMS Commissioner Dennis Mendiola earlier said in a separate statement that the department has a zero-tolerance policy for sexual assault and will take the necessary steps if Litulumar is proven guilty, which would most likely be termination.

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'Neither I nor Democratic Party owns media outlets in Guam'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan), who chairs the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations that has opened an investigation into the travel expenses of Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and his wife, said over the weekend that neither she nor the Democratic Party owns any media companies in Guam.

This was in response to press secretary Kevin Bautista's comments, who described the probe as "another blatant

political attempt by the Democrats and their Guam news outlet to smear Torres and this administration."

Babauta also stressed that it is within her purview as the chairperson of the JGO Committee to conduct an oversight hearing and recommend reforms if necessary.

Bautista said Thursday the administration welcomes all legitimate inquiries but the timeline of this latest inquiry is "questionable." He said a bipartisan special committee was already formed last year and transferred oversight to

» Lawmaker says probe into Torres' expenditures within her purview as JGO chair

the Office of the Public Auditor, which is the appropriate agency to review and investigate these matters. Bautista said the findings of the Special Committee's draft report showed no findings of consequence.

Babauta pointed out over the weekend that the CNMI Constitution allows no mem-

ber of the Legislature to transfer his or her inherent oversight authority to OPA and that OPA has its own investigative powers.

"Bautista's comments are insulting to OPA and their staff by saying their investigative authority is hollow at best," she said.

The lawmaker said she supposes that Bautista, Torres' senior policy adviser, Robert Hunter, and Torres will find that U.S. District

Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona was being wasteful, nonsensical and politically motivated when she signed the search and seizure warrant for Torres' home and his tax records and that the timeliness of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

raids in 2019 were questionable too.

"Perhaps they should all educate themselves and read the CNMI Constitution when

they're not busy misrepresenting the truth based on drunken logic," she said.

Babauta has asked the Marianas Visitors Authority for copies of documents relating to travels of Torres and first lady Diann Torres that were funded—either in part or in whole—by MVA from January 2015 until now.

The lawmaker also asked the Office of Personnel Management to provide "unredacted" documents relating to new hires, promotions, and amendments to contracts of department heads.



Babauta

Tasi to Table members get fishing rods and supplies

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Thanks to a donation from Fishing Tackle and Sporting Goods, Tasi to Table Inc. gave away a total of 20 rods and reels and other fishing supplies to its high school members last Saturday at the Kagman High School cafeteria.

Each club member received a high-quality Daiwa fishing rod, lines, hooks, tackle box, T-shirt, a lure-tying handbook, and sunglasses—all part of their continuing effort to master the skills of fishing.

Catherine Lam, who owns Fishing Tackle and Sporting Goods with her husband, Pierre Lam, said that making the donation was "really our pleasure." She said the company wouldn't have lasted 30 years so far without the support of the CNMI's fishing and sporting community and making the donation was just their way of saying than you. "We wouldn't be here for 30 years without your support, so we thank you very much. Enjoy and discover the joy of fishing and share that joy with others," she said to Tasi to Table members.



Robert Hunter, who is an adviser to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, said he and the governor are "very appreciative of the work Tasi to Table does [to] bring the community closer to our ocean, closer to this important natural resource that we have." He hopes the club members would "learn a lot and enjoy the ocean."

Tasi to Table, formed in 2020, is an eight-month program that teaches students from different high schools

on the island the basics of fishing. By participating in the program, high school students can accumulate 120 hours that go toward elective credits for graduation. It currently has 34.

Tasi to Table president Gene Weaver said that some of their young participants come from single-parent households. He sees the importance of parental engagement for these children and hopes to increase parental engagement and cre-

ate incentives for parents of students to participate.

Weaver said that Tasi to Table also hopes to increase organizational reach by holding events on Tinian and Rota, beginning with a summer program on April 24 on Tinian and May 1 on Rota. Ideas to create more events, tournaments, and fishing derbies are also being talked about.

Mount Carmel School sophomore Mathew Sablan says he joined the club to

"feed my family and put food on the table." To anyone still hesitant about joining TTT, he says to "join and you will get the experience of your life."

Marianas High School sophomore Carmelita Castro says she joined the club

because her "family's full of fishermen" and she "wanted to learn new ways how to fish." She says that the club is a good experience that "teaches us from the start about boating safety and stuff like how and why to use a flare gun."

Court orders Fairyland to pay over \$700K

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

Apartment investor Fairyland Investment LCC has been ordered to pay over \$700,000 after the U.S. District Court for the NMI issued a default judgment order against it, as requested by Peace and Order Trading Corp., a contracting company.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona directed the clerk of court last week to enter a default judgment against Fairyland Investment in the principal amount of \$767,697.50 plus attorney's fees and costs, including applicable federal interest rate for post-judgment interest.

According to Manglona,

the court ruled in favor of the plaintiffs because Fairyland Investment failed to answer or otherwise plead its case. It was not immediately known why Fairyland failed to respond to the lawsuit.

Manglona has yet to issue a ruling on the plaintiff's application for a mechanic's lien but placed the matter under advisement.

A mechanic's lien as a legal claim against property, typically used by contractors or suppliers when they haven't received payment for improvements they made to a property.

Peace and Order, through lawyer Colin Thompson, is suing Fairyland Investment for breach of construction contract and unjust enrichment.

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Torres says spending proposal forthcoming for \$515M ARPA

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that, by late next week, his administration will hopefully have a structured spending proposal for the esti-

mated \$515 million that's allocated to the CNMI under the American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA.

Speaking at a radio news briefing, Torres disclosed that they are in the process of making sure that the Cabinet and other entities as well as

branches will benefit from ARPA. The governor said there's a lot of work that needs to be done in order for each agency to avail of the ARPA funds. He said they will be having a Cabinet meeting this week to go down the subtitles and the subsec-

a bag/pouch on his back. It was not immediately learned in the DPS press statement why the case was only publicized last week.

If you or someone you know has been approached recently by any individual offering to sell you a pop-up tent matching the description we encourage you to call 911 immediately, or if you wish to remain anonymous you may call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. (PR)

did not notice the tent missing and went inside.

The next morning he went outside to put away the tent but could not find it. He looked around his home and could not find it. After reviewing the surveillance system he saw an unknown male individual take the pop-up tent.

The suspect is described as using a hat, T-shirt, slippers, and wearing

States. Today, they are underway in more than 190 countries, though progress in bringing the virus under control varies widely.

While the campaigns in the U.S. and Britain have hit their stride and people and businesses there are beginning to contemplate life after the pandemic, other places, mostly poorer countries but some rich ones as well, are lagging behind in putting shots in arms and have imposed new lockdowns and other restrictions as virus cases soar.

Worldwide, deaths are on the rise again, running at around 12,000 per

day on average, and new cases are climbing too, eclipsing 700,000 a day.

"This is not the situation we want to be in 16 months into a pandemic, where we have proven control measures," said Maria Van Kerkhove, one of the World Health Organization's leaders on COVID-19.

In Brazil, where deaths are running at about 3,000 per day, accounting for one-quarter of the lives lost worldwide in recent weeks, the crisis has been likened to a "raging inferno" by one WHO official. A more contagious variant of the virus has been rampaging across the country.

ian West End terminal and the Rota terminal.

Torres asked SMA to confirm that mediation would not be used as forum to revise CPA's rates and methodology.

Torres said CPA also accepted SMA's gesture of "good faith" to continue the hearing for last Thursday, April 15, 2021, and sent a draft stipulation to continue the hearing for 45 days.

On the afternoon of April 11, Torres said, SMA responded that the stipulation was sufficient and that it would confer on CPA's letter. Less than 10 minutes later, he said, SMA requested CPA to hold off on filing the stipulation to continue the motion hearing.

On the morning of April 12, Torres said, SMA advised CPA that it had decided to proceed with the motion hearing, in direct contradiction of Star Marianas' promise that it would stipulate to continue the motion hearing as a sign of its good faith in order to give mediation an opportunity to succeed and to minimize further legal expenses for both sides prior to mediation.

The dispute between CPA and SMA began in 2012 when CPA tried to collect on \$2.6 million that it says SMA owes CPA in unpaid passenger facility charges.

SMA, on the other hand, alleges that CPA imposes excessive charges that are not based on fair market value, CPA's operational costs, or the weight of SMA's aircraft.

In CPA's response last April 11, Torres said CPA asked SMA to confirm that it understood that the purpose of mediation would be for settlement of the issues agreed upon by the parties, specifically the \$2,586,892 that SMA owes CPA, SMA's response to the reconciliation, and SMA's concerns with the Tin-

tions of the ARPA.

Torres said Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig has been working extremely hard in making sure they are going to address the CNMI's deficits, land compensations, and all other government billings.

"I want to address those first and foremost when the ARPA [funding] comes in," he said. "Hopefully by late next week we'll be able to start sending that proposal. We wanted to make sure that what we propose is within our guidelines and that's the biggest part."

Torres said they can always go back and amend the plan later. "But our plan is to get as accurate as we can, but address the deficit first and foremost," he said.

Torres said they have already ad-

dressed the issue of furloughed employees by bringing them back. He said they have also brought all government employees up to 80 work hours. The governor said there is also an opportunity to continue to maintain the retirees' pension at 100%.

Torres said when the Legislature gave him 100% reprogramming authority, that gave him the opportunity and the ability to continue to fund all retirees' pensions at 100%. "I plan to maintain that 100% as long as I'm here," said Torres.

He said the 80 hours for government employees will cover the next two to three years.

"All of these is a plan that we are executing the right way," the governor said.

have obligations. These obligations for now means getting vaccinated. Those that were furloughed and were brought back in, it's mandatory that they get vaccinated. So, should they also be given reconsideration if they refuse to get vaccinated?" asked Torres.

Torres hopes the firefighters find a workplace that don't mandate the vaccine. For now, he said, every government worker is mandated to take the vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Federal Drug Administration recently recommended suspending the use of the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine due to six reported U.S. cases of side effects—a rare and severe type of blood clot, with symptoms occurring six to 13 days after vaccination.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the nine Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Service personnel were fired last April 12.

There were initially 23 individuals who signed a petition against the mandatory vaccination, but 14 decided to get vaccinated and keep their jobs while nine stayed firm against the directive.

Last Feb. 18, Torres made it mandatory for all Executive Branch employees, and semi-autonomous agencies and entities to be vaccinated.

ern COVID-19 for people who are 18 years and older at the Kagman Community Center in Kagman this Saturday, from 8am to 12pm. CHCC only has 200 shots available and encourages those who are interested to register by calling the CHCC Call Center at 682-7468 or register in person at the CHCC Call Center at IT&E Chalan Laulau or visit vaccinatecnmi.com.

In observance of the "National Take-Back Initiative," CHCC encourages the community to turn in their unused or expired medication for safe, anonymous disposal. New or used needles and syringes won't be accepted.

Those who want to turn in their unused or expired medication can turn it in on April 24 from 10am to 2pm at the CHCC Outpatient Pharmacy on Lower Navy Hill, Saipan, the Rota Health Center on Rota, or the Tinian Health Center on Tinian.

CHCC will also be doing free COVID-19 testing this Wednesday at Kanoa Resort from 1pm to 4pm. Those who want to get tested can register on vaccinatecnmi.com.

Pop-up tent stolen in Dandan

On March 28, 2021, at about 8:27am, the Department of Public Safety received a 911 call reporting a theft incident at the residence in Dandan.

The caller told the police officers dispatched to the scene that his Seattle Seahawks pop-up tent had been stolen from outside his home. The owner stated that he opened up his tent to dry and left his home in the evening. When he returned he

WORLDWIDE

From Page 1

(2.7 million) and equivalent to Philadelphia and Dallas combined.

And the true number is believed to be significantly higher because of possible government concealment and the many cases overlooked in the early stages of the outbreak that began in Wuhan, China, at the end of 2019.

When the world back in January passed the bleak threshold of 2 million deaths, immunization drives had just started in Europe and the United

CPA

From Page 1

ate meeting last March 23 that SMA wanted to engage in mediation with CPA in good faith "were insincere and disingenuous."

As of press time yesterday, *Saipan Tribune* was still awaiting comments from Scoggins or Christian.

With the negotiation's failure, CPA's motion to dismiss SMA's lawsuit went through last Thursday, April 15, before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

After listening to the arguments, Camacho ordered CPA counsel Joseph Hallahan and Scoggins to file their respective proposed orders, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Last March 23, CPA and SMA agreed during a meeting before the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications to finally resolve their lease dispute that began in 2012.

Star Marianas, though Christian, expressed its willingness to the Senate committee to engage in settlement discussions and mediation with CPA.

However, in CPA's Monday letter to Scoggins, Torres said that two days after that Senate committee hearing, on March 25, SMA sent a letter to CPA demanding an audit of CPA under the Airline Use Agreement prior to engaging in mediation, claiming the parties would be able to negotiate more effectively with audit results.

On March 31, 2021, CPA responded that it believed SMA was attempting to use the audit as a premature discovery request in the pending litigation to tee up its damage claim

against CPA, which is the main subject of CPA's motion to dismiss.

Nevertheless, Torres said, CPA responded that it would treat SMA's demand for the audit as a request under the Airline Use Agreement and would be amenable to such an audit. That same day, March 31, Torres said CPA called for a settlement conference during the week of April 5-9, 2021, pursuant to SMA's comment to the Senate committee that the company wanted to engage in mediation discussions to resolve its dispute with CPA.

Torres said that SMA rejected CPA's request for a settlement conference last April 1, with SMA pressing its demand for an audit of CPA under the Airline Use Agreement, and insisting on seeing the results of the audit prior to engaging in mediation.

Torres said SMA claimed that the information from the audit would assist in refining the computation process to provide a mutually acceptable accounting process on CPA's rates.

Torres said SMA also affirmed that "furthermore, as a sign of good faith, [Star Marianas] is willing to stipulate to a continuance, for a reasonable amount of time, of the currently scheduled hearing date for the motion to dismiss to give mediation an opportunity to succeed and to minimize further legal expenses for both sides prior to mediation."

In CPA's response last April 11, Torres said CPA asked SMA to confirm that it understood that the purpose of mediation would be for settlement of the issues agreed upon by the parties, specifically the \$2,586,892 that SMA owes CPA, SMA's response to the reconciliation, and SMA's concerns with the Tin-

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SMA, on the other hand, alleges that CPA imposes excessive charges that are not based on fair market value, CPA's operational costs, or the weight of SMA's aircraft.

In December 2020, SMA sued CPA in the Superior Court, alleging breach of contract. CPA filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit and also filed counter-claims against SMA.

TERMINATION

From Page 1

are terminated already for refusing to get the vaccine.

The nine firefighters have refused to be vaccinated, citing the many unknowns about the vaccine and insisting that they be given the option whether to be vaccinated or not.

However, in order to avoid being vaccinated, a person must have either one of two acceptable reasons: a medical condition that precludes being vaccinated or it is against a "sincerely held" religious belief. According to Torres, the firefighters who were terminated had none of these two reasons. Instead, they just refused to get vaccinated.

"There's two options for you not to be vaccinated. One, if your doctor tells you that you shouldn't get vaccinated, and two, if it's a religious purpose. None of those two were the approach of those that were terminated. They just refuse to get vaccinated," said Torres. He said every government employee had "ample time" to do their research on the vaccines.

Torres said there were furloughed government employees who were mandated to get the vaccine. "If you work in the government [or] you work in a private sector, we all

TRAVELER

From Page 1

they have successfully administered 35,000 COVID-19 vaccines so far. "We appreciate all the support and cooperation from the CNMI community," said a CHCC statement.

Speaking at a news briefing last Friday, April 16, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres says the community needs to get vaccinated so the CNMI can achieve herd immunity and allow the CNMI to revive its economy.

"I got the right people around me to make right decisions. The success that we've had, it's a community success, our success, and the leadership, I can't thank [them] enough. It's a chain link, and if one chain is missing, it's not going to be as successful," said Torres.

He also commended all first responders, government employees, private partners, as well as the community who have taken the vaccine.

Additionally, CHCC announced that it will be administering the Mod-

Registrar of Corporation to implement new fee structure

The Department of Commerce's Registrar of Corporation is implementing a new fee structure, as mandated under Public Law 21-37, effective May 1, 2021.

The revenue generated from the new fee structure will allow the Registrar of Corpora-

tion to upgrade its computers and programs to enable all corporations and individual to access its website for all requirements, forms, and assistance in filing for new corporation and other required corporation reports. Additionally, it will enable Commerce to expand

its digitization of over 2 million documents filed with the Registrar of Corporation. The capability will be made available at its offices on Tinian and Rota as well.

In addition, the upgrade will provide for an online portal to help businesses

file, search, and order business records, as well as filing for a financing statement or searching for a corporation (Corp.), limited liability company (LLC), domestic partnership, limited partnership (LP) filing or non-profit corporations.

ON THE NET

http://www.cnmilaw.org/pdf/cmc_section/T4/4205.pdf

The online portal will provide statistics about CNMI businesses to include links to data products, related programs and additional information. All active programs

are included along with discontinued programs of continuing interest.

The last comprehensive fee adjustment occurred in 1998 pursuant to Executive Order 97-03. The fee adjustment review provided the basis of the increase in fees for the streamlining of business process. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

High surf advisory in effect until Saturday

A high surf advisory remains in effect on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota until 7am Saturday, April 24, 2021.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, hazardous surf of 7 to 9 feet and dangerous rip currents will be present in south and west facing reefs of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota until 7am Saturday.

This will create dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion.

Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are advised to avoid venturing near south and west facing reefs. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions. (PR)

MVA temporary office hours

The Marianas Visitors Authority office in San Jose, Saipan, will be open during limited morning hours from 8am to 12am on April 19-23, 2021, for office inventory and assessment. For more information, contact the MVA at 664-3200/1 or info@mymarianas.com. (PR)

5.1-magnitude quake in Marianas region

At 10:23am on April 16, 2021, a report of a 5.1-magnitude earthquake occurred at 17.874°N 147.226°E in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

5.3-magnitude quake in Marianas region

At 11:27am on April 17, 2021, a report of a 5.3-magnitude earthquake occurred at 21.511°N 145.975°E in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

5.3-magnitude quake in Marianas region

At 2:44pm on April 15, 2021, a report of a 5.3 magnitude earthquake occurred at 12.376°N 141.593°E in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings, or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

Military trainings set

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Radio Barrigada and Dandan-Malojlo on April 19-22 from 9am to 11:55am. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity due to the training.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Agat Bay and Outer Apra Harbor on April 19-22 from 9am to 11:55am. Blank ammunition will be utilized for this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity.

The U.S. Navy will conduct live fire exercises in open ocean on April 19-22 from 9am to 11:55am at the following coordinates: 13°26'N/145°08'E, 13°42'N/144°36"E. Marine vessels

are advised to remain clear of the area for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on April 19-22 from 9am to 11:55am. Blank ammunition will be utilized for this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Outer Apra Harbor on April 19-23 from 7am to 4am. The public is advised to be aware of the training.

The U.S. Navy will conduct training in Outer Apra Harbor on April 21-22 from 9am to 2am. The public is advised to be aware of the training.

Military units will conduct training in Radio Barrigada on April 21-22 from noon to 4am. Blank ammunition will be utilized for this training. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they hear or see increased activity.

The U.S. Coast Guard will conduct live fire exercises in open ocean on April 21 from 10am to 4am at the following coordinates: 13°07.2'N/ 144°34' 65"E, 13°07.2'N/ 144°40.85"E, 13°01.5'N/ 144°34.65"E, 13°01.5'N/144°40.85"E, 13°07.2'N/ 144°36.8'E, 13°07.2'N/ 144°38.8'E, 13°09.2'N/144°36.8'E, 13°09.2'N/ 144°38.8'E. The public is advised to remain clear of the areas for the duration of the event and to monitor the U.S. Coast Guard broadcast Notice to Mariners for advisories.

These trainings support readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-21-022

Installation of Primary Screen

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Installation of Primary Screen in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; the installation of a primary screen (OFCI), foundations, sewer piping, sewer valves and valve box, water service, electrical service, water booster pump, basket strainers, and rehabilitation and modification of existing improvements, along with other miscellaneous features, for one unit at Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi WWTP. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded through Saipan Local Law 20-19.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **April 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-21-022, Installation of Primary Screen"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 50120, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2021**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 27, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Western Knudsen, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email western.knudsen@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950-1304
Tel.: (670) 664-8500/01; Fax: (670) 664-8540
www.deq.gov.mp



Jonathan I. Arriola
Director, DEQ

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL PERMIT APPLICATION SWMF-S-LF-01-2020

APPLICANT: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW), 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan MP 96950, 322-2745/2760.

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S OPERATIONS: The Department of Public Works (DPW) is proposing to renew its permit for the Marpi Solid Waste Landfill, an existing 26-acre municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) on a 43-acre site, with a bottom and side slope-lined landfill system consisting of existing cells numbered 1 and 2. The liner of the cells consists of a 60-mil high-density polyethylene (HDPE) flexible membrane liner (FML) on top of a geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) of less than 1 x 109 cm/sec hydraulic conductivity. A 2-foot operations and drainage layer consisting of engineered fill and a leachate collection system, is on top of the liner system. Appurtenant facilities for the landfill include a groundwater monitoring system, a gas migration monitoring system, surface water management system, public convenience area, leachate collection, storage, and treatment system, scale house, maintenance facility, and administration building. The Marpi Solid Waste Landfill was previously permitted under Permit No. SWMF-S-LF-01-2015, which expired on November 13, 2020.

DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION OF MSWLF: Marpi Depression, Island of Saipan.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD: DEQ will conduct a public hearing pursuant to 2 CMC §3122(d) on May 10, 2021 at 2:00 pm at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality 2nd Floor Conference Room in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan, regarding DEQ's intention to issue the requested permit. COVID-19 protocols will be implemented and all participants are required to wear a face mask at all times. In addition, written comments can be submitted by mail to the Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950; sent by fax to 664-8540; or emailed to greg.reyes@becq.gov.mp. Comments must be received by DEQ by no later than June 3, 2021. Comments received at the public hearing and during the public comment period shall be considered in making a decision and DEQ shall prepare written responses to all significant comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Interested persons may obtain further information and inspect a copy of the application and supporting documents by scheduling an appointment with DEQ, Chalan Pale Arnold – Middle Road.

Please contact DEQ at 664-8500 if you have any questions or if you would like to learn more about the proposed renewal of the Marpi Solid Waste Landfill permit.

13 NMC ROTC cadets return from training exercise in Guam

Thirteen cadets from the Northern Marianas College's Reserve Officers Training Corps program returned from Guam after participating in the semi-annual Field Training Exercise, or FTX, with the University of Guam ROTC program.

The four-day exercise exposed the NMC cadets to U.S. military weapons, combat movements and patrols, and tactical decision-making. The NMC cadets carried ruck sacks and maneuvered across the arduous jungle terrain at the Radio Barrigada Training Area.

According to Lt. Col. Thomas Anderson, professor of Military Science for NMC and UOG ROTC, the NMC cadets performed extremely well and held their own in comparison to the over 70 UOG cadets at the FTX. "The NMC cadets came to Guam extremely motivated," Anderson said, "and after enduring the necessary quarantine, they met up with their teammates from UOG and gave it their all to support their teammates, despite the extreme heat and physically and mentally strenuous training.



Thirteen cadets from the Northern Marianas College Reserve Officers' Training Corps program pose in front of the University of Guam ROTC headquarters during the spring 2021 Field Training Exercise from April 8-11, 2021.



Northern Marianas College Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet Mariah Katelyn Gapasin stayed motivated while carrying a ruck sack during extreme heat in Guam during the ROTC spring 2021 Field Training Exercise from April 8-11, 2021.

trying to strive forward and never back down. I saw everything as a challenge, and I learned so much from my peers at the FTX."

Like Magofna and Manibusan, Camacho was grateful to attend the training. "It was an amazing experience getting to know all of the UOG cadets, and applying everything we learned in the classroom at NMC in the field," he said. "I just want to say thank you to the NMC ROTC cadre for putting their faith in us and coordinating for our flights to Guam and the training at the FTX."

Gapasin noted that "I stayed motivated and kept telling myself, 'If they can do this, you can do this.' I knew the other cadets were struggling as much as I was, and I shouldn't be thinking about myself."

At the completion of the FTX, the UOG senior cadets treated all of the participants to a barbecue, where they all celebrated the lessons they had learned and the team that had been built during the training.

Besides Manibusan, Magofna, Camacho, and Gapasin, the other NMC ROTC cadets who completed the training exercise were Noel Cabrera, John Dimalanta, John Bautista, Vanessa Falig, Mariah Katelyn, Tyrell Ngewakl, Kelvin Ordonez, Jeffrey Seo, Darryl De Luna, and Jan Socorro.

NMC's ROTC program is the premiere leadership development program in the CNMI, producing dynamic leaders for the CNMI, the Pacific, and the United States of America. For more information on NMC's ROTC program, visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)



Northern Marianas College Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet John Dimalanta execute combat training scenarios while participating in the ROTC spring 2021 Field Training Exercise from April 8-11, 2021, in Guam.

Northern Marianas College Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet Lewis Camacho, right, trained with cadets from the University of Guam such as Gavin Pangelinan, left, and Gabe Aguon. Pangelinan is a former NMC ROTC cadet and Saipan Southern High School graduate.

noted that Camacho has "incredible future leadership potential."

NMC sophomore Frananie Manibusan, who led the NMC cadets in their journey to Guam, said, "We did our best to be prepared, and I just tried to encourage everyone to

do the best they can. ... After experiencing FTX, it really showed us our strengths and weaknesses, and upon returning to Saipan, it makes us more determined to work harder and push past our limits."

Magofna said, "I just kept

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID
ITB21-CHCC/RHC-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 6th, 2021 TIME:10:00AM (CHST)

"ROTA HEALTH CENTER-NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP21-DCCA/CCDF-076

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 12, 2021 • TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"TO IMPLEMENT THE CCDF's SCIENCE OF EARLY LEARNING (SOEL) INITIATIVE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE BUILDING NO. 1347, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON **MAY 03, 2021 AT 09:30 A.M.** CONTRACTOR MAY REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE VIA VIRTUAL OR REMOTE. IF REQUESTING VIA VIRTUAL OR REMOTE, REQUEST MUST BE MADE VIA EMAIL TO mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com AT LEAST 3-WORKDAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED CONFERENCE. CALENDAR INVITE AND LINK WILL ONLY BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO REQUESTED PARTICIPATION VIA VIRTUAL OR REMOTE.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO **MS. MARIBEL S.D. LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR**, VIA EMAIL TO mloste.cnmiccdf@gmail.com OR VIA FACSIMILE TO **(670)-664-2547 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON APRIL 28, 2021**. ALL QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.0-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JOSEPH P. DELEON GUERRERO
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhgov.net>

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(Re-announcement)

OPENING DATE: April 14, 2021 • CLOSING DATE: April 30, 2021 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

| NMHC JVA No. | Positions: | Salary: |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 2021-019 | Accountant I | \$26,289.21 - \$33,975.00- per annum Classified |

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at the NMHC website at www.nmhgov.net.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Name: Ronald Ryann T. Rapanut
Address: P.O. Box 505616 Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: 233-7678 (Work)

Pro Se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Ronald Ryann T. Rapanut)
(Name of Father))
P.J.E.R.) FCD PA
(Name of Child)) CIVIL ACTION
Minor Child) NO. 21-0030
Plaintiffs,)
vs.)
Jhumilyn S. Esposo) SUMMONS
(Name of Mother))
Defendant,)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to *Ronald Ryann T. Rapanut* whose address is *P.O. Box 505616 Saipan, MP 96950* as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2021

/s/
Clerk of Court

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Jaypee N. Baysa) FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION
Petitioner,) NO. 21-0113
)
vs.)
Qiaoling T. Baysa) SUMMONS FOR
Respondent,) PUBLICATION
)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is *P.O. Box 504318 Saipan, MP 96950* as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2021.

/s/
Clerk of Court

2 GCA students win in 2021 Toyota Dream Car contest

Two elementary students of Grace Christian Academy won top awards in the 8-11 division of the 2021 Toyota Dream Car Art Contest, which means their entries have qualified to compete with other entries worldwide.

Third grader En Mei Huang won first place, while fifth grader Eun Ho Amy Park won third place in their category of the 2021 Toyota Dream Car contest. They recently attended the awards ceremony with limited guests due to COVID-19 restrictions at the Atkins Kroll Toyota showroom in San Jose, Saipan. Both of their entries will be entered in the worldwide contest.

Huang has already won several islandwide art contests, including first place in the 2019 Toyota Dream Car contest when she was in first grade. The title of her latest artwork is "New Alternative Energy Car."

Speaker wants budget deliberation now, but...

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) wants deliberations on next fiscal year budget to begin as soon as possible, but his fellow lawmakers have determined that issues relating to the NMI Settlement Fund obligations need to be clarified with the administration first.

In an interview with reporters Wednesday, Villagomez said he actually planned to schedule the passage of the concurrent resolution last Friday but one of the things he wants to find out is if the American Rescue Plan Act funding for the CNMI will also take care of the CNMI's obligations and debts.

"And we wanted to get clarity in terms of the Settlement Fund," said Villagomez, adding that one of the limits regarding the ARPA is that the CNMI cannot pay pensions.

"But then I guess there is an argument that... it is not a pension anymore. You know, it's a Settlement Fund. But it's still... taking care of the retirees. So it still kind of has the pension fund. So we're still looking on clarity for that," adding that House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) is working on the matter. Villagomez said Manglona is working with Finance Secretary David DLG. Atalig to get clarity.

The recently enacted ARPA allocates an estimated \$515 million in federal dollars to the CNMI. It is intended to help government operations and offset costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Villagomez believes that the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Depart-



En Mei Huang wins first place in the 8-11 category with her entry titled "New Alternative Energy Car." GCA

She said her car has a machine that can suck virus and dirt and convert them into fuel.

Ho was happy to win in this art

contest for the first time, with her artwork titled "Helping Car." She said her car can help deliver food and goods like COVID-19 vac-



Eun Ho Amy Park holds her winning entry, titled "Helping Car." GCA

cine to the people who need them.

GCA Art teacher Esther Manzano commended both students on their artwork. "Keep [being creative]" she mentioned in her written encouragement comment in the world contest entry sheet for both students.

More than 80 countries participate in the Toyota Dream Car Art Contest, which invites children from around the world to draw their dream cars. The winners of each category will participate in the world contest in which a grand prize winner from each category and two special award winners will be selected. Each winner will receive \$5,000 to spend on educational resources and supplementary prizes of \$10,000 will also be awarded to their school to spend on educational resources. (PR)

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 037

Opening Date: April 1, 2021 • Closing Date: April 22, 2021

| | |
|--|--|
| POSITION TITLE: DEPARTMENT: LOCATION: ANNUAL SALARY: CONTRACT: POSITION(S): | Trades Technician: Mechanic Power Generation Division Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA \$22,193.60 to \$28,115.00 per annum, Non-Exempt Not Contracted Four (4) |
|--|--|

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of the Power Generation Division.

Duties:

- Performs maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs in assigned area of responsibility;
- Provides technical guidance regarding assigned functions; and ensures quality service levels in accordance with proper procedures;
- Provide assistance in monitoring and complying with regulatory compliance; operates specialized and heavy equipment; performs maintenance activities and skilled repairs to equipment, infrastructure and/or other items of assigned area of responsibility;
- Identifies issues and operational concerns;
- Performs analysis, maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs of 8 megawatt, 13 megawatt Mitsubishi-MAN diesel engines to include engine auxiliary equipment in the main Power Plant and provide the same services on the small Power Plant with 2.5 megawatt Electromotive Division (EMD) units.
- Ensures work is within Original Equipment Manufacturing (OEM) engineering specifications and quality levels.
- Performs inspections; provides troubleshooting; evaluates corrective measures or options; recommends and implements solutions and corrective actions;
- Receives trouble calls; responds to requests and provides information or status updates.
- Initiates requests for the replenishment of materials and supplies; cleans, organizes and maintains work and supply areas;
- Analyzes readings of equipment; maintains records, logs, orders, data, and prepares reports;
- Perform reconditioning of used parts;
- Perform alignment of pumps and motors at auxiliary sites; Bending, cutting, grinding and fabricating various types of materials;
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education. Graduate from a Vocational/Technical Institution as a Mechanic or related field. Must demonstrate having had (A) 4 years of increasingly responsible experience performing mechanic duties on 1500 HP or larger diesel prime mover engines and associated auxiliary units. Experience on Mitsubishi MAN, EMD, Cummins and/or Nordberg diesel engines desired but not required.

Knowledge of: Mechanical principles, practices and procedures of assigned service area; Mathematical concepts; Inspection procedures; Safety procedures and safe work practices;

Skills in: Performing skilled maintenance, operations and repair work of various plant systems; Operating specialized and heavy equipment; Monitoring equipment and making adjustments; Performing inspections and identifying issues; Troubleshooting issues and recommending or implementing solutions; Receiving requests and trouble calls and providing assistance; Initiating supply requests; Taking equipment readings and maintaining historical data; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities.

Physical Demands:

- Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending.
- Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles.
- Work primarily inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently.
- Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work; exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Getting out of Afghanistan after 20 years

Why did we go to war in Afghanistan 20 years ago?

Because of Sept. 11, 2001.

The United States was attacked on its own soil—by four planes piloted by al-Qaida adherents crashing into the twin towers in New York City, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, diverted from its target of the U.S. Capitol—for the first time since Pearl Harbor. Some 2,960 people were killed and 25,000 were injured.

We took the war to them—to Afghanistan where the Taliban gave their allies al-Qaida safe haven.

It was the only thing we could have done.

Why did we stay in Afghanistan, and stay for so long?

Because, although we answered the enemy, and managed to contain them, we could never fully destroy the Taliban.

And we could never fully secure a non-Taliban government. It seemed too risky to walk away. There never seemed



President Joe Biden visits Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. AP

to be a right time. And the U.S. forces remaining there were minimal.

But at some point our 20-year involvement—spanning four U.S. presidencies—had to end, and President Joe Biden has decided that time is now, without conditions.

Former President Donald Trump was on his way to the same decision, and for the same reasons.

■ We have done what we can do, and the Afghans must now govern and protect themselves.

■ It is not possible to finally and totally defeat enemies like the Taliban and al-Qaida. The battle of this nation against terrorists is existential. That battle will always be a part of foreign and military policy, and attention to it will ebb and flow according to the degree of threat, but it cannot be the only or even the central focus.

■ The world has changed. While our terrorist enemies have been contained, new and more ominous enemies—Russia, China and Iran, quite possibly in coalition—are knocking at our door.

■ There is no significant threat to the U.S. coming from

See **GETTING** on Next Page

COULD
AFGHANISTAN
BECOME A
THREAT ONCE
WE LEAVE?

FRANKLY...

I'M MORE
WORRIED
ABOUT THE
NEIGHBORS.

FAR-
RIGHT
EXTREMISTS

LAS VEGAS SUN 2021
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE LAS VEGAS SUN



By MARTIN SCHRAM

Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

"Intelligence operations are often run from the safety of military bases, but when the bases went, so did the intelligence units," said Roy Gutman, an award-winning journalist and author, who is an associate fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and was the first to spotlight that outcome. "As a result, the U.S. government was blindsided by the rise of ISIS and had to follow news reports about the fall of Mosul and ISIS's advances through Syria."

Good news: While Biden was announcing his troop withdrawal, top intelligence officials were testifying at a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing. And new CIA Director William Burns made clear he gets the very point Gutman had spotted long ago. "When the time comes for the U.S. military to withdraw, the U.S. government's ability to collect and act on threats will diminish," Burns testified. "That's simply a fact."

But there's no sign that former President Donald Trump shared that concern when he promised the Taliban he would withdraw all U.S. troops from Afghanistan by May 1—and the Taliban promised it won't allow al-Qaida to operate in Afghan sanctuaries. But that leads us to our new central concern—given the certain upcoming mission decomplishment:

Q: With U.S. intel sources diminishing when the U.S. military leaves, how can Washington be sure the Taliban is keeping its promise—and al-Qaida is not replenishing and plotting another terrorist attack?

The quest for that answer looms as a major reason the U.S. must delay its troop withdrawal from May Day to Sept. 11. U.S. officials are scrambling to develop all manner of plans for being able to launch, from distant, locations, powerful and accurate military responses to any Taliban attacks. Also, while the U.S. will be withdrawing its remaining 2,500 official military forces—and NATO allies are withdrawing their 6-7,000 troops—another 1,000 U.S. special operations or other counter-terrorism and intelligence personnel will be staying. And their capability and numbers may well be upgraded.

Biden's challenge is to somehow assure that those officially off-the-books forces will be able to fill the pending Afghanistan intelligence gap. Our security half a world away may depend on their ability to operate skillfully with their urgent mission accomplished.

Wanted: A presidential mission accomplished

Americans have learned the hard way that we must be wary when our presidents deliver feel-good messages about what has been accomplished in a war-torn region.

Too often, our presidents have proclaimed a "mission accomplished," but then take actions that diminish what they accomplished and inadvertently turn the final result into a mission decomplished. (Yes, quibblers, it's a non-word. But it says best a reality the world has witnessed for decades. So it stays invented.)

President Joe Biden chose his words carefully Wednesday in announcing he will withdraw all official U.S. military from Afghanistan by Sept. 11—the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attack on the U.S. homeland, directed by al-Qaida's Osama bin Laden, from his Afghan sanctuary where he was the ruling Taliban's guest terrorist.

Biden made sure he didn't fall into the same trap that has been infamously linked forever to the legacy of George W. Bush, first as he stood beneath a "Mission Accomplished" banner on the USS Lincoln aircraft carrier, and then when he told U.S. troops at Afghanistan's Camp As Sayliyah that their "mission has been accomplished."

Tragically, the great success and sacrifice of those troops was presidentially devolved when Bush diverted U.S. resources and focus away from the pursuit of Afghanistan's fleeing Taliban and al-Qaida to invade Iraq and topple Saddam Hussein. With the full U.S. resources diverted, the Taliban and al-Qaida leaders found refuge in a despicably welcoming Pakistan. Ultimately the Taliban was able to regroup and regain control of vast amounts of Afghan territory that they hold today. Despite decades of U.S. military sacrifices.

Fast-forward three presidents: As Biden spoke to us from the White House Treaty Room where Bush announced the 2001 retaliatory invasion of the Taliban's Afghanistan, 2,448 U.S. troops had been killed and 20,722 wounded in Afghanistan.

"We already have service members doing their duty in Afghanistan today whose parents served in the same war. ... War in Afghanistan was never meant to be a multi-generational undertaking. We were attacked. We went to war with clear goals. We achieved those objectives. Bin Laden is dead and al-Qaida is degraded ... in Afghanistan. And it's time to end the forever war."

America has learned the hard way the perils of how a mission accomplished can be presidentially devolved into a mission decomplished.

When President Barack Obama withdrew the U.S. military from Iraq, it produced an unintended consequence that was ill-considered and ultimately damaging.

When the military left, America lost vital intel resources. Result: U.S. policymakers in Washington were shocked, shocked when ISIS—a little-known terrorist group—suddenly surfaced and captured with seeming ease cities in Iraq and Syria.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

America's nuclear enterprise: Something not readily comprehended

While there is much focus on the military buildup throughout the Marianas Islands and Western Pacific in public square discussions, equal emphasis has not been placed on the various components that make up the American nuclear enterprise, its enormity, and its ongoing association in and with the Marianas.

What is the nuclear enterprise?

America's nuclear enterprise is the organizational ecosystem—people, money, institutions, and companies—that supports national nuclear weapons missions. The enterprise consumes up to \$40 billion each year to pay for development, testing, research, life extensions, construction, manufacturing, and restart work

related to updating and sustaining nuclear weapons stockpiles, national labs, security, early warning/command and control processes, and weapons delivery systems.

Key organizations involved

The White House, U.S. Congress, and the departments of Defense and Energy oversee and drive decisions affecting the nuclear enterprise. The largely military-focused nature of America's nuclear enterprise is founded on the perceived need to maintain nuclear weapons superiority and advantage to deter and dissuade potential adversaries from attacking America, its colonies such as Guam, and its allies. America's nuclear triad of air-, land- and sea-based platforms and systems has been the practical outcome of this enterprise.

Space-based assets are an integral component within the nuclear enterprise as well because space-based assets further enable the triad to remain fully operational 24/7, 365 days a year. Non-governmental organizations are also involved in the nuclear enterprise, providing a variety of insights and critiques on this very important, dangerous, and complicated topic.

New START Treaty

Currently, the New START Treaty, which initially entered into force in 2011 between the United States and Russia, was recently renewed for five additional years. New START is the only remaining nuclear arms control treaty now in place between the U.S. and Russia, after former President Trump withdrew from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty in 2019. The New START Treaty limits the number of deployed strategic nuclear warheads to 1,500 on over 600 deployed submarines, heavy bombers, and land-based missile site locations. New START also contains provisions that outline what actions are to be taken to execute proper treaty compliance.

The influence of nuclear weapons

Nuclear weapons have been the single most impactful factor driving geopolitical and military posturing throughout the planet, most especially in the Asia-Pacific region. A U.S. Army Air Corps crew initiated two separate nuclear bomb attacks from Tinian against Japan, which brought an end to World War II. Since then, our Pacific Ocean area has been the key testing grounds for nuclear weapons by several nations, including France, Britain, and the United States.

Pacific Islander civilizations such as ours have never had any say on matters pertaining to the massive nuclearization of our blue ocean continent by major powers since the creation of the atom bomb.

American nuclear testing conducted in the Marshall Islands from the 1940s through the 1960s, exposed our entire ancient Chamorro Pacific Islander civilization to radioactive poisons traveling within and above the atmosphere and down current from the blasts. These exposures to poisonous substances have contributed to our Chamorro people contracting rare cancers and diseases.

Guam's Cold War contributions to the nuclear triad

During the Cold War, Guam played an essential part in supporting the sea- and air-based legs of America's nuclear triad. Our island homeported Navy nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines that carried Polaris missiles armed with nuclear warheads. In northern Guam, Andersen Air Force Base was home to scores

GETTING

From Page 8

Afghanistan at this time. If that changes, and the current Afghanistan government falls, and terrorists begin to reassemble and take hold and build cells there, we have the options of special forces and air power to protect ourselves.

This has always been the case. This country was never going to wholly tame the terrorist threat. This kind of war has no end point and ground troops are not the most useful tool. Moreover, we always had a range of military options and other foreign policy worries. Those worries have only grown larger.

And we Americans have never been very good at being neo-colonialists and setting up and maintaining protectorates, with the exception of Japan, which was a special case.

The foreign policy "experts" who regard themselves as tough-minded and omniscient, and are very far from either, will wag

their fingers and warn that bad things could happen. This is true. But keeping a small number of troops in Afghanistan is not necessary a prophylactic and certainly not a long-range solution.

RICK'S COLUMN

By RICK PEREZ

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.

of B-52s assigned to nuclear and conventional missions at levels not seen anywhere else on the planet.

The intent of having such high concentrations of nuclear triad platforms placed on-island was to further ensure that the effective employment of deployed nuclear weapons complicated Russia's nuclear weapons attack planning in the Western Pacific.

Guam's pivotal role in strategic nuclear posturing helped the American Navy and Air Force ensure maximum flexibility, stealth, and platform recallability was in place, to enable the military the freedom of action to carry out its assigned nuclear deterrence mission sets.

Guam has also been and continues to be a key colonial overseas location where several kinds of nuclear bombs used by the Navy and Air Force have been stored for contingency planning purposes.

Guam's present-day contributions to the nuclear triad

The B-52s that fly to Andersen represent America's rotational nuclear bomber squadron community. Approximately 46 B-52s are assigned to deploy nuclear weapons worldwide. The remaining 30 B-52s in the total Air Force inventory is used for conventional non-nuclear missions. Fighter aircraft such as the F-16 and F-35 that come to Guam or are stationed on-island are tactical fighter bombers that also carry nuclear weapons for nonstrategic missions.

The B-2 bombers that come to Guam are part of a total Air Force aircraft inventory of approximately 20. The B-2 bomber carries nuclear weapons and was designed to penetrate enemy airspace by flying at relatively low altitudes.

The B-1 bombers that come to Guam do not carry nuclear weapons due to New START Treaty obligations. The B-1s are used within the Asia-Pacific region to conduct what the military calls "reassurance missions."

Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines represent the sea-based leg of America's nuclear triad. Seven of the 12 Ohio-class submarines used for the sea-based nuclear deterrence mission are assigned to patrol the Pacific Ocean area. Each boat is outfitted with 20 missile launch tubes.

The Navy maintains a total inventory of approximately 1,100 nuclear warheads to support the sea-launched nuclear deterrence mission of the United States. Each missile may have differing numbers of warheads to meet specific operational objectives of individual Ohio-class submarines. The Navy in Guam supports Ohio-class submarines, and homeports four nuclear-powered Los Angeles-class attack submarines because of the increasing importance of undersea warfare in the region.

Since Vietnam, the foreign policy elites and their progeny, mostly hawks, have been wrong about almost everything—most predicted outcomes and virtually every predicted consequence. Often they have been spectacularly wrong. In the case of Afghanistan, they did not even understand their own war—the war they created.

Remember "the surge"?

No, we have done what we can do in Afghanistan.

One more thing should be said: Most of us have never known war and know nothing of a soldier's life. Before we ask someone to risk life and limb for the country, we ought to be sure the stakes are worth it and that some higher, or at least measured, success is possible. We could say that 20 years ago. Not now.

The president made the right call.

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Virtues and Vices/ Naughty and Nices

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey aka Pepe Batbon is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.

A sonnet series inspired by Benjamin Franklin's *The Thirteen Virtues* in *Poor Richard's Almanac*.

The Virtue of Order

"Let all things have their places, let each part of your business have its time."

—Benjamin Franklin (1706 -1790)

In order to get things in order one needs thought rectifying procedures puts systems in place pay close attention to the order that is sought be a short order organizer in almost every case order ham and eggs sometimes instead of bacon give just straight facts to the newspaper reporter let people know it is your seat they are taking make haste moving away from the SBD farther* be honest and prompt filing your income taxes put dishes back in the same place in the cupboard serving meals on time will quickly move forward place a low priority on removing your ear waxes last but not least use alphabetical arrangement things may fall in order without estrangement.

(*A quote also found in Benjamin Franklin's Poor Richard's Almanac, 1736, "He that lives upon Hope, dies Fighting." SBD means Silent But Deadly.)

The Vice of Disorder

More often than not my desk is in disorder my wife says clean it up or she'll throw it out guess I need some mental magic kind of sorter but my mind is often in disorder no doubt I'm ordered to do 'dat' and ordered to do 'dis' while I'm content with life's disorder as it is taking things as they come randomly and amiss happy with the chaos of pop pop fizz fizz strolling and lolling around amidst clutter ignoring all the trolls and disorder criticism is easy for me like a hot knife through butter between order and disorder remains a schism in 45's 01/06/21 speech to the mob we heard him rant on the 'Vote Steal' reductio ad absurdum* repeating "argumentum ad ignorantium".

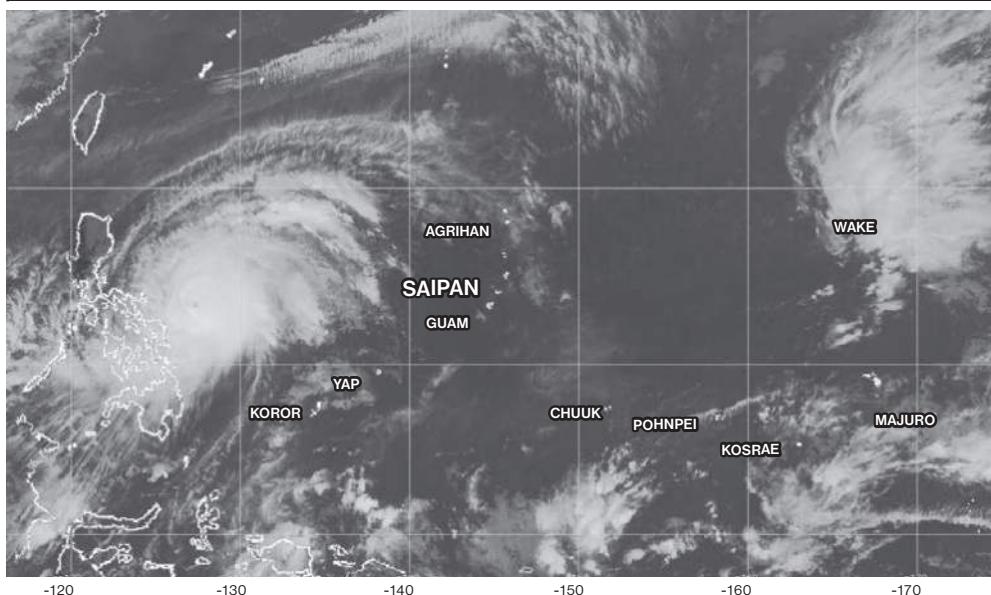
(*reductio ad absurdum is Latin for "reduction to absurdity." In logic, it means a form of refutation showing contradictory or absurd consequences following upon premises as a matter of logical necessity.)

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| | | | | |
| 87° | 76° | 87° | 76° | 86° |

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 11:32 AM, SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

East to northeast winds prevail over the Marianas this morning. Satellite imagery shows only a few clouds and showers over the area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Source: Office of the Governor

Rumor control
During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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| MICRONESIA | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 87 79 °F |
| Palau | Partly Cloudy | 87 78 °F |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | 84 71 °F |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 85 80 °F |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | 85 79 °F |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 85 79 °F |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 85 79 °F |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:00 AM | 6:32 PM |
| Tuesday | 5:59 AM | 6:32 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:59 AM | 6:32 PM |
| Thursday | 5:58 AM | 6:32 PM |
| Friday | 5:58 AM | 6:32 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Today | 11:04 AM | - | - |
| Tuesday | - | 12:30 AM | 11:58 AM |
| Wednesday | - | 1:20 AM | 12:54 PM |
| Thursday | - | 2:08 AM | 1:50 PM |
| Friday | - | 2:53 AM | 2:47 PM |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Auckland | Cloudy |
| Beijing | Sunny |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy |
| London | Partly Cloudy |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy |
| Manila | Thunderstorms |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy |
| New York | Mostly Sunny |
| Osaka | Sunny |
| Paris | Mostly Sunny |
| Pusan | Rain |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny |
| Salem | Cloudy |
| San Francisco | Cloudy |
| Seoul | Rain |
| Tokyo | Mostly Cloudy |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|
| 1:37 AM | High Tide | 1.66 |
| 6:53 AM | Low Tide | 1.32 |
| 10:59 AM | High Tide | 1.55 |
| 6:50 PM | Low Tide | 0.12 |

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA117 6:30am 7:10am 1, 4, 5, 6 | | | | UA174 4:50am 5:31am 1, 4, 5, 6 | | | |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | UA184/174 9:50pm 5:31am+1 5 via Guam | | | |
| GUAM-MANILA (MNL) | | | | UA184 9:50pm 3:45am+1 5 | | | |
| MANILA (MNL)-GUAM | | | | UA184 10:25pm 4:10am+1 1, 3 | | | |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

| FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|--|
| SAIPAN TO ROTA | | | | |
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | |
| 1301 | 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri | |
| 1302 | 11:00AM | 11:30AM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat | |
| 1303 | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun | |
| ROTA TO SAIPAN | | | | |
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | |
| 3101 | 9:30AM | 10:00AM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri | |
| 3102 | 12:00AM | 12:30AM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat | |
| 3103 | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sun | |
| TINIAN TO SAIPAN | | | | |
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY | |
| 2101 | 7:30 | 7: | | |

Business

US West prepares for possible 1st water shortage declaration

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—The man-made lakes that store water supplying millions of people in the U.S. West and Mexico are projected to shrink to historic lows in the coming months, dropping to levels that could trigger the federal government's first-ever official shortage declaration and prompt cuts in Arizona and Nevada.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation released 24-month projections this week forecasting that less Colorado River water will cascade down from the Rocky Mountains through Lake Powell and Lake Mead and into the arid deserts of the U.S. Southwest and the Gulf of California. Water levels in the two lakes are expected to plummet low enough for the agency to declare an official shortage for the first time, threatening the supply of Colorado River water that growing cities and farms rely on.

It comes as climate change means less snowpack flows into the river and its tributaries, and hotter temperatures parch soil and cause more river water to evaporate as it streams through the drought-plagued American West.

Water agency officials say they're confident their preparation measures, including

The agency's models project Lake Mead will fall below 1,075 feet (328 meters) for the first time in June 2021. That's the level that prompts a shortage declaration under agreements negotiated by seven states that rely on Colorado River water: Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

The April projections, however, will not have binding impact. Federal officials regularly issue long-term projections but use those released each August to make decisions about how to allocate river water. If projections don't improve by then, the Bureau of Reclamation will declare a Level 1 shortage condition. The cuts would be implemented in January.

Arizona, Nevada and Mexico have voluntarily given up water under a drought contingency plan for the river signed in 2019. A shortage declaration would subject the two U.S. states to their first mandatory reductions. Both rely on the Colorado River more than any other water source, and Arizona stands to lose roughly one-third of its supply.

Water agency officials say they're confident their preparation measures, including



AP
In this July 28, 2014, file photo, lightning strikes over Lake Mead near Hoover Dam that impounds Colorado River water at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Arizona.

the reservoir without having it count toward its allocation.

Colby Pellegrino, director of water resources for the Southern Nevada Water Authority, reassured customers that those preparation measures would insulate them from the effects of cuts. But she warned that more action was needed.

"It is incumbent upon all users of the Colorado River to find ways to conserve," Pellegrino said in a statement.

The Bureau of Reclamation also projected that Lake Mead will drop to the point they worried in the past could threaten electricity generation at Hoover Dam. The hydropower serves millions of customers in Arizona, California

conservation and seeking out alternative sources, would allow them to withstand cuts if the drought lingers as expected.

"The study, while significant, is not a surprise. It reflects the impacts of the dry and warm conditions across the Colorado

River Basin this year, as well as the effects of a prolonged drought that has impacted the Colorado River water supply," officials from the Arizona Department of Water Resources and Central Arizona Project said in a joint statement.

In Nevada, the agency that supplies water to most of the state has constructed "straws" to draw water from further down in Lake Mead as its levels fall. It also has created a credit system where it can bank recycled water back into

Justice Department sues Roger Stone over \$2M in unpaid taxes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Justice Department sued Donald Trump's ally Roger Stone on Friday, accusing the conservative provocateur and his wife of failing to pay nearly \$2 million in income tax.

The lawsuit was filed in federal court in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It alleges the couple underpaid their income tax by more than \$1.5 million from 2007 until 2011 and separately alleges Stone also owes more

than \$400,000 for not fully paying his tax bill in 2018.

The suit alleges that the couple used a commercial entity known as Drake Ventures to "shield their personal income from enforced collection" and to fund a "lavish lifestyle."

"Despite notice and demand for payment, Roger and Nydia Stone have failed and refused to pay the entire amount of the liabilities," the lawsuit says.

Stone, a longtime con-

fident of the former president's, calls the lawsuit "politically motivated."

Stone was charged by the Justice Department in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation and convicted at trial of lying to Congress, tampering with a witness and obstructing the House investigation into whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia to tip the 2016 election. Trump later commuted Stone's

sentence and pardoned him.

Stone boasted during the 2016 campaign that he was in contact with WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange through a trusted intermediary and hinted at inside knowledge of WikiLeaks' plans to release more than 19,000 emails hacked from the servers of the Democratic National Committee. But Stone denied any wrongdoing and consistently criticized the case against him as politically motivated.

Founder of Adobe and developer of PDFs dies at age 81

LOS ALTOS, Calif. (AP)—Charles "Chuck" Geschke—the co-founder of the major software company Adobe Inc. who helped develop Portable Document Format technology, or PDFs—died at age 81.

Geschke, who lived in the San Francisco Bay Area suburb of Los Altos, died Friday, the company said.

"This is a huge loss for the entire Adobe community and the technology industry, for whom he has been a guide and hero for decades," Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen wrote

in an email to the company's employees.

"As co-founders of Adobe, Chuck and John Warnock developed groundbreaking software that has revolutionized how people create and communicate," Narayen said. "Their first product was Adobe PostScript, an innovative technology that provided a radical new way to print text and images on paper and sparked the desktop publishing revolution."



Geschke

tion. Chuck instilled a relentless drive for innovation in the company, resulting in some of the most transformative software inventions, including the ubiquitous PDF, Acrobat, Illustrator, Premiere Pro and Photoshop."

His wife said Geschke was also proud of his family.

"He was a famous businessman, the founder of a major company in the U.S. and the world, and of course he was

very, very proud of that and it was huge achievement in his life, but it wasn't his focus—really, his family was," Nancy "Nan" Geschke, 78, told the Mercury News on Saturday. "He always called himself the luckiest man in the world."

After earning a doctorate from Carnegie Mellon University, Geschke began working at Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, where he met Warnock, the Mercury News reported. The men left the company in 1982 to found Adobe, developing software together.

US regulator warns about Peloton treadmill

NEW YORK (AP)—Safety regulators warned people with kids and pets Saturday to immediately stop using a treadmill made by Peloton after one child died and others were injured.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said children and at least one pet were pulled, pinned and entrapped under the rear roller of the Tread+ treadmill, leading to fractures, scrapes

and the death of one child.

The safety commission said in a news release and in emails that it knows of 39 "incidents" with the treadmill, involving "multiple" or "dozens" of children, but it did not specify a number of children. It said the majority of the incidents resulted in injuries, including the one death.

The commission posted a video on its YouTube page

of a child being pulled under the treadmill.

Of the 39 incidents, 23 involved children, according to New York-based Peloton Interactive Inc.; 15 included objects like medicine balls, and one included a pet, it said.

Peloton said in a news release that the warning from the safety commission was "inaccurate and misleading." It said

there's no reason to stop using the treadmill as long as children and pets are kept away from it at all times, it is turned off when not in use, and a safety key is removed.

But the safety commission said that in at least one episode, a child was pulled under the treadmill while a parent was running on it, suggesting it can be dangerous to children even while a parent is present.

SpaceX picked for moonwalkers, on verge of third crew launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—NASA chose SpaceX on Friday to build the lunar lander that will eventually put the first woman and person of color on the moon.

The announcement came a few hours after SpaceX's most international crew of astronauts yet arrived in Florida for a liftoff next week.

Elon Musk's Starship—the futuristic, shiny steel rocketship that's been launching and exploding in Texas—beat out landers proposed by Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin and Dynetics, a subsidiary of Leidos. The contract is worth \$2.89 billion.

"We won't stop at the moon," said NASA's acting administrator Steve Jurczyk. Mars is the ultimate goal, he told reporters.

NASA declined to provide a target launch date for the moon-landing Artemis mission, saying a review is underway. The Trump administration had set a 2024 deadline, but on Friday, NASA officials called it a goal.

"We'll do it when it's safe," said Kathy Lueders, who leads NASA's human

space exploration office. She indicated NASA and SpaceX are shooting for later this decade. The astronauts will fly to the moon on the NASA-launched Orion capsule, then transfer to Starship in lunar orbit for the ride down to the surface and back.

NASA has said at least one of the first moonwalkers since 1972 would be the first woman on the moon. Another goal of the program, according to the space agency, is to send a person of color to the lunar surface.

On Friday, Jurczyk greeted the four astronauts arriving at Kennedy Space Center for SpaceX's third crew launch in less than a year. By coincidence, their flight to the International Space Station is set for next Thursday—Earth Day. It's a reminder of NASA's core mission of studying the home planet, Jurczyk said.

The three men and one woman represent the U.S., France and Japan: NASA's Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur, Thomas Pesquet and Akihiko Hoshide, all experienced space fliers.

Nation

1 killed in Omaha mall shooting that sends shoppers running

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—A shooting at a Nebraska mall left one person dead and another wounded as terrified shoppers ran for cover.

Authorities believe the shooting at Westroads Mall in Omaha was an isolated incident, and not a random attack.

Police determined the suspects had fled the scene after searching the mall, according to Omaha police Lt. Neal Bo-

nacci. Officers first gave the “all clear” around 1 p.m.—about an hour after multiple shots were fired, The Omaha World-Herald reports.

One man was fatally shot, while a woman suffered a leg wound, Bonacci said.

The gunfire caused panic, as people fled from the main section of the mall, according to a World-Herald reporter who was in the food court when the

shooting happened.

“It was shocking,” said Alyha Wills, who was in Forever 21 with her sister when other shoppers asked if she’d heard the gunfire.

She then fled, saying, “I could hear it; it was close.”

Officials did not immediately release additional details about the suspects or what prompted the shooting.

This is the second report-

ed shooting at Westroads Mall in a little more than a month. Omaha Police Officer Jeffrey Wittstruck was shot at four times by a 21-year-old man who was accused of shoplifting T-shirts from J.C. Penney on March 12. Wittstruck survived.

The J.C. Penney is about 200 feet (60 meters) from Von Maur, where a gunman killed eight people and himself in 2007.

Fires, damage at Oakland protest against police brutality



AP
Demonstrators set fire to the front of the California Bank and Trust building during a protest against police brutality in Oakland, Calif., Friday, April 16, 2021.

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—A protest that began peacefully in California ended with multiple fires set, several cars damaged and numerous windows shattered.

The protest against police brutality in Oakland began calmly Friday night, news outlets reported. A subsequent march drew around 300 people with some setting fires and breaking windows.

A car dealership was among the buildings damaged. At least one car was set on fire. A fire was also set outside a bank. Demonstrators were seen walking past the scene of a car crash.

Photos and videos posted online showed marchers with signs and flags. Many chanted the names of Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old who was shot and killed by an officer in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, and Adam Toledo, a 13-year-old fatally shot by an officer in Chicago.

People in the crowd threw bottles and other objects at officers during the march, Oakland police said in a statement. One officer suffered an injury from being struck in the head. A community member was also assaulted, police said.

The statement said protesters dragged barriers into the road to block and delay responding officers.

Authorities declared an un-

lawful assembly and instructed demonstrators to leave. Police said the protesters dispersed peacefully. There were no arrests, or citations issued.

Some businesses had boarded up their storefronts earlier Friday in anticipation of the unrest, according to news outlets.

Black Americans experiencing collective trauma, grief

Carlil Pittman knows trauma firsthand.

As the co-founder of the Chicago-based youth organization GoodKidsMadCity-Englewood, he grieved the loss of Delmonte Johnson, a young community activist, more than two years ago to the very thing the teen fought fiercely against: gun violence.

He’s also been angered and frustrated by the onslaught of stories of Black Americans killed at the hands of police across the nation throughout the past year.

First, there was Breonna Taylor, a Black woman who was fatally shot in her Louisville, Kentucky, home last March. Then there was George Floyd, whose Memorial Day killing by a Minneapolis officer sparked global protests. Just this week, Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old Black man, was

fatally shot by a police officer during a traffic stop in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota—just minutes from where Floyd died. And on Friday, Pittman spent much of the day planning a demonstration with other Chicago organizers to protest the police killing of 13-year-old Adam Toledo, who was Latino.

“We’re constantly turning on the TV, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and seeing people that look like us who are getting murdered with no repercussions,” said Pittman, an organizer for A New Deal for Youth. “It’s not normal to see someone get murdered by the click of a video on your phone, yet it has become the norm for our people, our Black and brown communities.”

Many Black Americans are facing a collective sense of grief and trauma that has grown more profound with the



AP
Visitors browse a memorial to George Floyd as a new addition commemorating Daunte Wright is displayed outside Cup Foods, Wednesday, April 14, 2021, in Minneapolis, Minn.

loss of each life at the hands of police in America. Some see themselves and their children reflected in the victims of police violence, heightening the grief they feel. That collective mourning is a great concern to experts and medical professionals who consider the

Sikh community calls for gun reforms after FedEx shooting

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—

Members of Indianapolis’ tight-knit Sikh community joined with city officials to call for gun reforms Saturday as they mourned the deaths of four Sikhs who were among the eight people killed in a mass shooting at a FedEx warehouse.

At a vigil attended by more than 200 at an Indianapolis park Saturday evening, Aasrees Kaur, who represented the Sikh Coalition, spoke out alongside the city’s mayor and other elected officials to demand action that would prevent such attacks from happening again.

“We must support one another, not just in grief, but in calling our policymakers and elected officials to make meaningful change,” Kaur said. “The time to act is not later, but now. We are far too many tragedies, too late, in doing so.”

The attack was another blow to the Asian American community a month after authorities said six people of Asian descent were killed by a gunman in the Atlanta area and amid ongoing attacks against Asian Americans during the coronavirus pandemic.

About 90% of the workers at the FedEx warehouse near the Indianapolis International Airport are members of the local Sikh community,



Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

police said Friday. Kiran Deol, who attended the vigil in support of family members affected by the shooting, said loopholes in the law that make it easier for individuals to buy guns “need to be closed now,” and emphasized that anyone who tries to buy a firearm should be required to have their background checked.

“The gun violence is unacceptable. Look at what’s happened ... it needs to be stopped,” Deol said. “We need more reform. We need gun laws to be harder, stronger, so that responsible people are the ones that have guns. That’s what we want to bring awareness to.”

Satjeet Kaur, the Sikh Coalition’s executive director, said the entire community was traumatized by the “senseless” violence.

practices that are deeply embedded within the fabric of the nation. Racial trauma is a unique form of identity-related trauma that people of color experience due to racism and discrimination, according to Dr. Steven Kniffley, a licensed psychologist and coordinator for Spalding University’s Collective Care Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

“A lot of cities across the country are realizing that racial trauma is a public health issue,” Kniffley said, citing health concerns such as increased rates of suicide among Black men, a life expectancy gap and post-traumatic stress disorder. “There’s no other way that we can explain that except for the unique experiences Black and brown folks have based on their identity, and more specifically, when they encounter racism and discrimination.” (AP)

Asia

PH troops kill Egyptian and 2 Filipino militants

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops killed a suspected Egyptian would-be suicide bomber and two local Abu Sayyaf militants in what military officials said Saturday was a setback that would make it harder for gunmen linked to the Islamic State group to stage suicide attacks.

Army troops gunned down the three militants in a 10-minute firefight Friday night near a hinterland village off the mountainous Patikul town in southern Sulu province. They also recovered three assault rifles and bandoliers of ammunition, army brigade commander Col. Benjamin Batara Jr. said.

Military officials did not indicate how the three were

tracked down but military chief Gen. Cirilito Sobejana suggested that troops were helped by intelligence provided by villagers. “The support of the public in our peace and security operations is much, much needed,” Sobejana told The Associated Press.

The Egyptian, who was identified by the military only as Yusop, was the son of an Egyptian militant Reda Mohammad Mahmud who used the nom de guerre Siti Aisyah and was killed when she detonated a bomb and was shot by troops two years ago at the gate of an army detachment in Sulu’s Indanan town. His Egyptian stepfather was killed in a gunbattle with troops at a military check-

point in Indanan, also in 2019, the military said.

“This is one less suicide bomber,” army Maj. Gen. William Gonzales said. “Without them, the possibility of another attack is slimmer.”

Gonzales said without elaborating that the killing of the Egyptian would cut off foreign financial support to the Abu Sayyaf. The small but violent group has long been blacklisted by the United States and the Philippines for ransom kidnappings, beheadings of hostages and deadly bombing attacks.

Aside from Yusop, troops also killed suspected bomb maker Abu Khattab Jundullah and another still-unidentified militant.

Japan, US showcase alliance in dealing with China

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden and Japan Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga showcased the alliance between their two countries as well as their shared resolve in dealing with China as they met at the White House on Friday in Biden’s first face-to-face talks with a foreign leader as president.

Suga and Biden, who wore masks for their meeting in a visit modified by precautions against the coronavirus, were seeking to challenge messaging from Chinese President Xi Jinping that America and democracies in general are

on the decline following the political turmoil and international withdrawal that marked Donald Trump’s presidency.

At a press conference in the Rose Garden after their meeting, Biden stressed U.S. commitments to Japan’s defense and said the alliance—the U.S. is Japan’s only treaty ally—would “prove that democracies can still commit and win” and “deliver for our people.”

Managing the alliance with the United States is one of the trickiest tasks for any leader of Japan, whose economy depends heavily on China and whose security depends on the U.S.

Friday’s talks featured unusually frank talk from a Japanese leader against any effort by China to dominate the Indo-Pacific region by “force or coercion.”

Suga also called for peace and stability in Taiwan, and urged China—whose disputed claim to Taiwan is a potential flashpoint in the region and with the United States—to peacefully resolve the dispute. China under Xi has been increasingly deploying its military to assert its sweeping territorial claims, helping prod the United States, Japan and some other Indo-Pacific nations to strengthen their alliance.

ible accounts with photos on social media said that three people were killed Saturday in the central city of Mogok, in Myanmar’s gem mining region. According to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, which monitors casualties and arrests, government forces have killed at least 728 protesters and bystanders since the takeover. The group says 3,141 people, including ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi, are in detention.

US, China agree to cooperate on climate crisis with urgency

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The United States and China, the world’s two biggest carbon polluters, have agreed to cooperate with other countries to curb climate change, just days before President Joe Biden hosts a virtual summit of world leaders to discuss

the issue. The agreement was reached by U.S. special envoy for climate John Kerry and his Chinese counterpart Xie Zhenhua during two days of talks in Shanghai last week, the State Department said in a statement Saturday. “The United States and China are committed to cooperating with each other and with other countries to tackle the climate crisis, which must be addressed with the seriousness and urgency that it demands,” the joint statement said. China and the United States are the world’s top carbon polluters, pumping out nearly half of the fossil fuel fumes that are warming the planet’s atmosphere. Their cooperation is key to a success of global efforts to curb climate change, but frayed ties over human rights, trade and China’s territorial claims to Taiwan and the South China Sea have been threatening to undermine such efforts.

World

Queen says goodbye to Philip



Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II sits alone in St. George’s Chapel during the funeral of Prince Philip, the man who had been by her side for 73 years, at Windsor Castle, Windsor, England, Saturday April 17, 2021. AP

WINDSOR, England (AP)—Sitting by herself at the funeral of Prince Philip on Saturday, Queen Elizabeth cut a regal but solitary figure: still the monarch, but now alone.

The queen sat apart from family members at the simple but somber ceremony at Windsor Castle, in accordance with strict social distancing rules during the coronavirus pandemic. But if the ceremony had been for anyone else, at her side would have been her husband of 73 years, who gave a lifetime of service to the crown.

Wearing a face mask, the queen was dressed all in black, except for the diamond brooch that flashed on her left shoulder—a piece she had often worn on engagements with her husband.

The monarch’s four children—Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward—sat nearby, as did the queen and Philip’s eight grandchildren. The stripped-back service made their loss somehow more personal for people who often live their lives in public.

Just 30 mourners were allowed to attend the service for the prince, who died April 9 at the age of 99. The entire royal procession and funeral took place out of public view within the grounds of the castle, a 950-year-old royal residence 20 miles (30 kilometers) west of London, but was shown live on television.

Hundreds of people lined the streets outside the castle to pay their respects to the prince. Some held Union flags and clutched flowers, while others wore custom face masks featuring the royal’s photo.

“We have been inspired by his unwavering loyalty to our queen, by his service to

the nation and the Commonwealth, by his courage, fortitude and faith,” the dean of Windsor, David Conner, said in his call to prayer.

The nation honored Philip with a minute’s silence observed across the United Kingdom at 3 p.m., its beginning and end marked by a gun fired by the King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery. The final shot signaled the start of a funeral service steeped in military and royal tradition, but infused with the duke’s personality.

Philip’s body was carried to St. George’s Chapel at the castle on a Land Rover that the prince himself had specially designed. It was followed by members of the Royal Family, including Princes William and Harry, who made their first public appearance together since Harry and his wife, Meghan, gave a controversial interview to U.S. television host Oprah Winfrey in which they discussed the difficulties of royal life and how the two brothers had grown apart.

The procession traversed the grounds of Windsor Castle, passing military detachments arrayed under bright blue skies.

Inside the medieval Gothic chapel, the setting for centuries of royal weddings and funerals, this service was quiet and without excessive pageantry. Philip was deeply involved in planning the ceremony. At his request, there was no sermon. There were also no eulogies or readings, in keeping with royal tradition.

Former Bishop of London Richard Chartres, who knew Philip well, said the 50-minute service reflected the preferences of the prince, who was a man of faith but liked things to be succinct.

“He was at home with broad church, high church and low church, but what he really liked was short church,” Chartres told the BBC.

Philip’s coffin was draped with Philip’s personal standard, topped with his Admiral of the Fleet Naval Cap and sword. The sword was given to him by his father-in-law, King George VI, on the occasion of his marriage to the queen in 1947.

The monarch offered her own touches to the day. Ahead of the funeral, Buckingham Palace released a photo of the queen and Philip, smiling and relaxing on blankets in the grass in the Scottish Highlands in 2003. The palace said the casual, unposed photo was a favorite of the queen.

Composing a wreath atop the coffin were flowers chosen by the queen, including white lilies, small white roses, white freesia, white wax flower, white sweet peas and jasmine. A note from the monarch was attached, but its contents were not disclosed.

The funeral reflected Philip’s military ties, both as the ceremonial commander of many units and as a veteran of the Royal Navy who served with distinction during World War II. More than 700 military personnel took part in the commemorative events, including army bands, Royal Marine buglers and an honor guard drawn from across the armed forces.

Lt. Gen. Roland Walker, regimental lieutenant colonel of the Grenadier Guards, said his unit was honored to take part because of its close relationship with the prince. Philip served as regimental colonel of the guards, its honorary leader, for 42 years.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Myanmar junta pardons prisoners, to attend summit

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar’s junta on Saturday released more than 23,000 prisoners to mark the traditional new year holiday, including at least three political detainees, and the military leader behind the February coup confirmed he would attend a regional summit later this month. It wasn’t immediately clear if those released included pro-democracy activists who were detained for protesting the coup. State broadcaster MRTV said that junta chief Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing had pardoned 23,047 prisoners, including 137 foreigners who will be deported from Myanmar. He also reduced sentences for others. As security forces continued the deadly crackdown, unconfirmed but cred-

ible accounts with photos on social media said that three people were killed Saturday in the central city of Mogok, in Myanmar’s gem mining region. According to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, which monitors casualties and arrests, government forces have killed at least 728 protesters and bystanders since the takeover. The group says 3,141 people, including ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi, are in detention.

US, China agree to cooperate on climate crisis with urgency

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The United States and China, the world’s two biggest carbon polluters, have agreed to cooperate with other countries to curb climate change, just days before President Joe Biden hosts a virtual summit of world leaders to discuss

Health & Wellness

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MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

Components of a healthy diet and clean eating

DEAR MAYO CLINIC: I gained a bit of weight during quarantine. And as spring approaches, I want to focus on losing the excess pounds. I enjoy exercise, but I struggle with snacking and eating more processed foods than I should. A friend suggested clean eating. Do you have any advice so I can focus on clean eating and making more healthful choices to get my nutrition back on track?

ANSWER: Congratulations on being proactive to put your health and weight on track. Whether you are trying to lose weight or not, it is generally important to engage in clean eating. Although there are many variations to clean eating, it basically refers to eating foods that are as close as possible to their natural state.

One of the main reasons to eat clean are the health benefits of consuming foods rich in nutrient content that have not been overly processed. Clean eating nourishes you with healthy nutrient-dense foods, filling your body with vitamins, minerals, high-quality protein and healthy fats, all of which improve heart and brain

health, assist in weight management, build a stronger immune system, and increase energy levels.

It may feel overwhelming to change your diet, but my advice to you would be to consider different categories of food and then make small pivots based on what you like, what you are comfortable cooking and what may be in season.

Consider, for instance, the following foods:

- **Fresh fruit**—Apples, bananas, blueberries, grapes, oranges, strawberries or 100% fruit juice
- **Vegetables**—Avocados, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, corn, green beans, mushrooms, lettuce, peppers, sweet potatoes or tomatoes
- **Lean meats/proteins**—Dried beans, eggs from grass-fed chickens, fresh fish, plain nut butters (no sugars added) or unflavored nuts
- **Grain (cereal) foods**—Those made with whole grains, air-popped popcorn, oats, brown rice or whole-wheat pasta
- **Dairy products**—Cheese, milk, plain yogurt or unsweetened non-dairy products



Lean protein.



Fresh fruits.

So, for breakfast, consider a whole-grain avocado toast, drizzled with olive oil and maybe some spices. And grab a banana, too. A glass of low-fat milk or a side of yogurt can give you great protein and a calcium boost.

As for snacking, it's still important to reach for clean foods that will fuel your body with good nutrients. Consider how often you reach for snacks during the day. If you know you're snacking often, plan out and prep package snacks.

If you portion out healthy snacks and place them somewhere you will see them, it will be harder to overindulge. It can be very difficult to estimate appropriate portion sizes, which can lead to unwanted weight gain. Using these visual cues will help you get close to the actual recommended serving sizes:

- **Fruit**—One serving is equivalent to a tennis ball.1 medium whole fruit
- 1/2 cup of chopped, cooked or canned fruit

- **Vegetables**—One serving is equivalent to one or two baseballs.2 cups of raw, leafy vegetables (two baseballs)
- 1 cup of chopped, cooked or canned raw veggies (1 baseball)
- **Grains**—One serving is equivalent to a hockey puck.1 slice whole-wheat bread
- 1/2 cup of cooked pasta, potatoes or rice
- **Protein foods**—One serving is equivalent to a hockey puck.3 ounces of cooked meat
- **Fat**—One serving is equivalent to one die.1 teaspoon butter, margarine or oil

Another helpful tip is to track your progress and choices. This can help to motivate you to keep going. Jot down daily the number of meals and snacks. Consider a menu or checklist of options. Track what you have selected, and then, at the end of the week, go ahead and indulge in a piece of chocolate or small scoop of frozen yogurt.

Be mindful also of when you



Weight loss and diet changes take time.

HEALTHY LIVING

A beneficial bean

Studies show that drinking coffee may reduce the risk of developing type 2, or adult onset, diabetes, which affects about 315 million people worldwide.

Health in four cups

- Drinking coffee increases blood levels of SHGB, a protein that regulates the hormones testosterone and estrogen, believed to play a part in the development of type 2 diabetes
- Women who drank four cups of caffeinated coffee daily had higher levels of SHBG and were less than half as likely as nondrinkers to develop the disease

SOURCE: UCLA NEWS, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, TNS PHOTO SERVICE



Eileen Dutter, R.D.N., Weight Management Services, Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Life & Style

Viola Davis is named Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—Viola Davis was named Woman of the Year on Friday by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

"Viola has inspired our company with her incredible grit and determination, and we cannot wait to celebrate her successes, strong character and wonderful talent," said Jessica Moore, the group's president, in a statement.

Davis is scheduled to be



honored April 22 in an online ceremony that will include a roast, a discussion and a speech from Davis as she is presented with her ceremonial pudding pot. Because of the pandemic, the event will not include its traditional parade through the streets of Cambridge.

"We're very excited to

'Peaky Blinders' actor Helen McCrory dies of cancer at 52

(AP)—British actor Helen McCrory, who starred in the television show "Peaky Blinders" and the "Harry Potter" movies, has died, her husband said Friday. She was 52 and had been suffering from cancer.

Her husband, fellow actor Damian Lewis, said McCrory died "peacefully at home" after a "heroic battle with cancer."



McCrory

"She died as she lived. Fearlessly," Lewis wrote on Twitter. "God we love her and know how lucky we are to have had her in our lives. She blazed so brightly. Go now, Little One, into the air, and thank you."

McCrory was one of Britain's most respected actors, making her mark by playing a succession of formidable and sometimes fearsome women.

She played the matriarch of a crime family on "Peaky Blinders" and the scheming Voldemort ally Narcissa Malfoy in the "Harry Potter" movies.

Cillian Murphy, who plays the central role of gangland

boss Tommy Shelby in "Peaky Blinders," set in the early 20th-century English underworld, said he was "broken-hearted to lose such a dear friend."

"Helen was a beautiful, caring, funny, compassionate human being," he said in a statement. "She was also a gifted actor—fearless and magnificent."

"She elevated and made humane every scene, every character she played," Murphy said. "It was a privilege to have worked with this brilliant woman, to have shared so many laughs over the years. I will dearly miss my pal. My love and thoughts are with Damian and her family."

McCrory also starred as a human rights lawyer dragged into international intrigue in the TV thriller "Fearless," played lawyer Cherie Blair, wife of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, in the 2006 movie "The Queen," and had roles in Martin Scorsese's film "Hugo" and the James Bond thriller "Skyfall."

Actor Michael Sheen, who

played Tony Blair in "The Queen," said McCrory was "so funny, so passionate, so smart and one of the greatest actors of our time."

"Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling tweeted that she was "devastated to learn of the death of Helen McCrory, an extraordinary actress and a wonderful woman who's left us far too soon."

Onstage, McCrory's roles included the vengeful Greek heroine "Medea" at the National Theatre in 2014. At the same theater, she excelled as a woman caught between a dull husband and a feckless lover in Terence Rattigan's "The Deep Blue Sea" in 2016.

While many performers struggle to find meaty female roles in film and television, McCrory played a string of them.

"Having said that, there are a lot of things I turn down," she told The Associated Press in 2016, describing the sort of roles where "all your lines are 'But what did you do at work?' 'That's so clever, darling.' 'How did you do that?' 'And then what did you do?'"

honor Viola Davis as our 71st Woman of the Year because of her immense impact in Hollywood, especially in such a historic and difficult year for the arts," said Natalie Needle, the event coordinator and producer.

In March, Davis became the Oscars' most nominated Black female actor ever when she

played Tony Blair in "The Queen," said McCrory was "so funny, so passionate, so smart and one of the greatest actors of our time."

She won her Emmy in 2015 for her role in "How To Get Away With Murder," and she has another Tony win for her role in "King Hedley II."

The Hasty Pudding award has been handed out annually since 1951 to people who have made lasting and impressive contributions to the world of entertainment. Previous Hasty Pudding winners include Meryl Streep, Katharine Hepburn and Helen Mirren. Elizabeth Banks was last year's recipient.



WORLD PRESS PHOTO OF THE YEAR

In this image released by World Press Photo, Thursday April 15, 2021, by Mads Nissen, Politiken, Panos Pictures, which won the World Press Photo of the Year award, and the first prize in the General News Singles category, titled The First Embrace, shows Rosa Luzia Lunardi (85) embraced by nurse Adriana Silva da Costa Souza, at Viva Bem care home, Sao Paulo, Brazil, on August 5, 2020. MADS NISSEN, POLITIKEN, PANOS PICTURES, WORLD PRESS PHOTO VIA AP

Harry, William seen chatting together after royal funeral

LONDON (AP)—A year after they last saw one another, Prince William and his brother Prince Harry put their fraught relationship aside as they said farewell to their grandfather at his funeral on Saturday.

The brothers were somber and silent as they walked together in a procession behind Prince Philip's coffin before his funeral at Windsor Castle

along with their father, Prince Charles, and other close relatives. They were seen chatting and walking together after the service concluded.

It was the first time the brothers had been together in public since Harry stood down from royal duties and moved to the U.S. with his wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, and their son Archie in early 2020.

Tensions between Harry, 36, and William, 38, came to the fore after Harry and Meghan gave a revealing interview to U.S. talk show host Oprah Winfrey last month. The couple portrayed the royal family as indifferent to Meghan's mental health struggles, and Harry described his relationship with William as "space at the moment."

Family estrangement is hard to explain to kids

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman who has been through a lot. I grew up thinking my grandmother was my mother, my mother was my sister, my uncle was my brother, and my own siblings my nieces and nephews. A "family issue" brought it all out in the open, and now I am estranged from my family.

My grandmother who adopted me passed away a few years ago. The issue was lies and the fact that I was molested, which is why my grandmother stepped in. How do I explain to my children, 6 and 9, that we don't have family on my side? They have been asking because my husband is very close with his own family.

ESTRANGED IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR ESTRANGED: Your family situation is complicated, and I don't think it would be appropriate for you to reveal the details until your children are quite a bit more mature. Lies, cover-ups and child molestation are valid reasons to have distanced yourself.

In the meantime, tell them you will explain when they are older. At some point they may need the information in case any of your relatives try to contact them in the future.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I broke things off with my ex-husband back in 2011. His dad passed away in 2013, and I have just learned that his mother died two months ago. I heard through the wife of his

friend that he didn't take it well, so I sent him a sympathy card with my phone number in case he wanted to talk.

Today I found out that he eats only one meal a day or just has one of those shakes. He insisted he's fine, but I don't think so. It sounds like he's still not handling it well. I'm worried that he's going to waste away.

We live in the same state but in two different cities. I still love him, and I'm trying to help him. How can I do that?

WORRIED EX IN OHIO

DEAR EX: Does your ex have relatives who live closer to him than you do? If so, contact them and express your concerns so perhaps they can check on him. However, if he doesn't, consider looking in on him yourself. If you do, it may not only ease your mind but also resuscitate your relationship, if he is open to a reconciliation.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 64-year-old woman. For once in my life, my hair is long, about elbow length. My son visits me about once every three months because he lives an hour's drive away. Today when he arrived, the first words out of his mouth were, "You look like a witch!" It made me feel very sad. He then proceeded to tell me no one over the age of 40 should wear long hair. What do you think? I've always been neat and clean.

SAD MOM IN COLORADO

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR SAD MOM: I think that at age 64, you can wear your hair any way you like it. Many women (and men) have allowed their hair to grow since the pandemic began, regardless of age. (I happen to know an 85-year-old woman whose lush, shiny hair is down to the middle of her back, and she looks great.) If you like your hair long, keep it that way. Do not allow your tactless son to be your fashion arbiter. Go, Rapunzel!

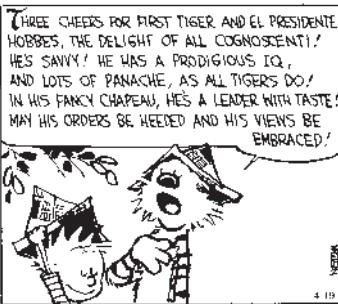
■ ■ ■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



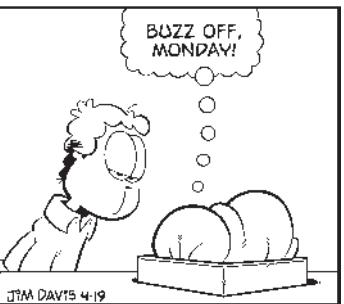
By Bill Waterson



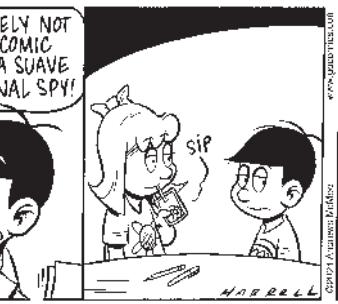
Garfield®



By Jim Davis



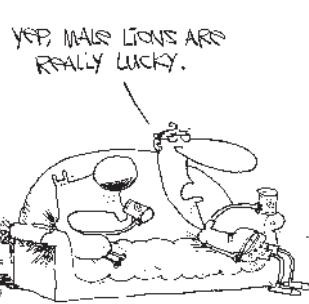
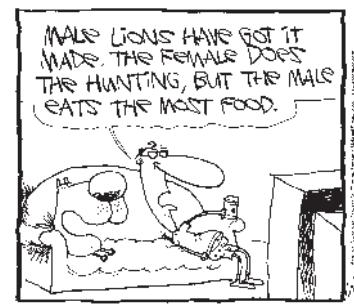
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset



The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

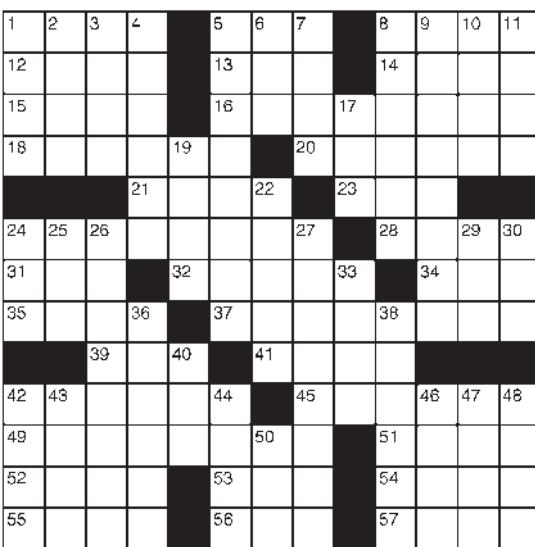
By Eugene Sheffer

| ACROSS | 37 | Butcher's offering | 22 | Prince in "Coming to America" |
|---------------------------------------|----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Oft-tattooed limbs | 39 | New Deal | 1 Mellows | 2 Babe of baseball |
| 5 "Do the Right Thing" pizzeria owner | 41 | Hosp. scans | 3 Lion's pride? | 4 Ornamental beetle |
| 8 Big fusses | 42 | Cop's badge | 5 Dressing ingredient | 6 GI's address |
| 12 Avocado dip, for short | 45 | Rock concert souvenir | 7 Tax | 8 Unexpected |
| 13 Mimic | 49 | Anti-chapping sticks | 9 Owing | 10 "Alternatively," in a text |
| 14 Alpha follower | 51 | Forever and — | 11 Declares | 12 Chit |
| 15 Sicilian peak | 52 | Sheltered | 13 Clothes | 14 Check |
| 16 Beau | 53 | | 15 Little rascal | 16 Clothes |
| 18 Everest guide | 54 | | 17 Dawn goddess | 18 Check |
| 20 Minors | 55 | | 19 Fall into a chair | 21 Glazier's sheet |
| 21 Actor Alan | 56 | | | |
| 23 Suntan lotion letters | 57 | | | |
| 24 Attorneys' references | 58 | | | |
| 28 Walked (on) | 59 | | | |
| 31 Half of bi- | 60 | | | |
| 32 Michelangelo masterpiece | 61 | | | |
| 34 Before | 62 | | | |
| 35 Cymbal's kin | 63 | | | |

Solution time: 21 mins.



Friday's answer 4-19

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Simu Liu, 32; Hayden Christensen, 40; Kate Hudson, 42; Ashley Judd, 54.

Happy Birthday: Consider your options and determine what you want to achieve. Taking a step in a new direction will give you something to look forward to and make it easier to leave the past behind you. A personal transformation is encouraged to match your long-term goal. It's up to you to navigate your way into the future positively and productively. Your numbers are 5, 17, 22, 26, 33, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pick up the pace, and finish what you start. Refuse to let emotional issues bog you down. A productive day will make you feel good about the future. Channel your energy into endeavors that will make your life easier and more fulfilling. ☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let what others do stand in your way. Focus on your goals, and use your skills and knowledge to add to your comfort and convenience. Romance is on the rise, and a promise will stabilize your personal life. ☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stop talking; concentrate on doing a good job. Empty promises will not leave a good impression. If you take control and do it for yourself, it will improve your relationship with colleagues and friends. Aim to please and surpass everyone's expectations. ☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Push for what you want and what you believe. Refuse to let anyone limit what you can

do. An unexpected change will influence your income. Don't give anyone jurisdiction over your journey. Take control and use your attributes to further your interests. ☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll gain perspective if you sit back and observe. The changes others make will be telltale of what's to follow. Be bold and question anyone trying to put pressure on you. Be ready to do your own thing and control your future. ☀

VIRO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Reach out to people you find stimulating and entertaining. The vision offered will spark your imagination and help you develop a plan that will improve your life mentally, physically and emotionally. Romance is on the rise. ☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep the peace, even if someone tries to pick a fight. Everyone has a right to his or her opinion, including you. Broaden your outlook by being a good listener. Incorporate only useful information into your plans. ☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Let your intuition lead the way, and you'll find a way to lower your overhead and make your home less stressful. Eliminate negativity and situations that leave you feeling unhinged. Follow your heart, make adjustments and live life your way. ☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Learn from your mistakes when dealing with money matters, joint ventures and negotiating contracts. Make your objective clear, and you'll avoid a misunderstanding. Aim to stabilize your finances and future. ☀

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Channel emotional energy into something productive. Use your imagination and take a new and exciting approach to work. Getting along with partners and colleagues will be essential if you want to get ahead. Romance is on the rise. ☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Pay attention to detail, and do the best job possible. Don't fold under pressure or let anyone bully you into doing something you don't want to do. Draw on your intelligence and the experience you have to overcome opposition. ☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It's time to make a change that will give you the freedom to follow your heart and dreams. Anger is a waste of time, but pouring your energy into what matters most to you will lead to a brighter future. ☀

Birthday Baby: You are impressive, passionate and sensitive. You are open-minded and determined.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COURTESY 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

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Birthday Baby: You are impressive, passionate and sensitive. You are open-minded and determined.

★ star: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☀ stars: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☀★ stars: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☀★★ stars: Aim high; start new projects. ☀★★★ stars: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | | 6 | | 7 | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | | 5 | | | |
| 6 | | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| 6 | 9 | 8 | 2 | | | | | |
| 4 | 3 | 6 | | | | | | |
| 8 | 7 | 5 | 4 | | | | | |
| 5 | | 9 | 8 | | | | | |
| 7 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 | | | |
| 1 | | 7 | | | | | | |

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 1 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 |
| 3 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 9 |
| 2 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 4 |
| 4 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| 7 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★

4/19

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

COOKING WITH WINE

By DAVID OUELLET

Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|------|
| C | R | Ⓐ | E | Ζ | Α | L | G | Α | Ι | Δ | Y |
| G | A | I | Ⓓ | H | S | A | L | P | S | N | COOK |
| A | N | B | E | Ⓓ | F | A | P | I | N | O | Τ |
| R | S | I | E | S | S | O | A | B | R | N | Ν |
| I | U | R | L | R | U | O | O | I | G | I | R |
| E | L | B | A | K | N | I | R | D | C | I | A |
| D | F | M | R | O | R | E | N | Y | E | V | I |
| A | A | N | A | O | S | A | T | G | Y | U | H |
| M | T | K | R | E | V | A | P | O | R | A | T |
| M | E | R | L | O | T | A | U | S | N | SHAF | S |
| D | S | K | M | E | A | T | L | C | S | H | R |
| R | W | A | A | G | R | S | E | F | D | T | Y |
| U | E | I | N | B | O | S | T | F | I | S | Y |
| O | E | A | N | P | M | | | | | | |

Rays beat Yankees 6-3, drop New York to AL-worst 5-9



NEW YORK

(AP)—Manuel Margot hit a tiebreaking two-run homer, Tyler Glasnow overcame cramps and poor control to pitch five innings of one-run ball and the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Yankees 6-3 Saturday and dropped New York to an AL-worst 5-9.

New York lost its seventh straight series to the Rays is last this late in the season for the first time since 1991, per Elias Sports. Fans in the Bronx again booed the Bombers, but they were more restrained a day after some hurled baseballs and other items on the field late in an 8-2 loss to the Rays.

Francisco Mejia hit a solo shot in the second off Jordan Montgomery (1-1), and Margot made it 3-1 with his homer off the left-hander in the fourth. Joey Wendle added a two-run shot against Jonathan Loaisiga in the seventh, and Mejia had an RBI double in the ninth.

Glasnow (2-0) walked four but also struck out seven and limited New York to two hits as the Rays (7-8) won their second straight in the series.

Dodgers 2, Padres 0

In San Diego, Mookie Betts made an outstanding diving catch and Clayton Kershaw starred on the mound and at the plate for Los Angeles.

Kershaw (3-1) struck out eight while working six innings of three-hit ball. He also drew a bases-loaded walk against Yu Darvish (1-1) in the fifth, leading Los Angeles to its eighth straight win. Justin Turner hit a solo homer in the ninth.

With runners on second and third, Tommy Pham hit a sinking liner to center that looked as if it was going to tie the game. But Betts got over for a terrific diving grab, and then pounded on his chest in celebration.

Darvish was terrific for San Diego, allowing one hit in seven innings. He struck out nine and walked two.

Mets 4, Rockies 3, 1st game

Rockies 7, Mets 2, 2nd game

In Denver, New York Mets pitcher Jacob deGrom struck out nine straight batters against Colorado, falling one shy of matching Tom Seaver's major league record, and finished with 14 strikeouts to win the doubleheader opener.

German Márquez pitched a two-hitter for his second career complete as the Rockies won the nightcap, stopping a seven-game losing streak and the Mets' four-game winning streak. Josh Fuentes broke open the game with a three-

run homer in the fifth off Jacob Barnes.

Coming off a 14-strikeout performance in a 3-0 loss to Philadelphia, deGrom (1-0) became just the ninth pitcher to strike out as many as nine in a row. The streak ended in the fifth inning, when the Rockies took a 3-1 lead with three unearned runs, but the Mets rallied to win a series opener delayed a day by snow when pinch-hitter Jonathan Villar hit a tying double off Daniel Bard (0-1) in the seventh inning and Dominic Smith had a sacrifice fly.

Pete Alonso had homered in the sixth to pull the Mets within a run.

DeGrom (1-1) allowed three unearned runs and three hits in six innings and walked one, lowering his ERA to 0.45. Edwin Díaz struck out the side for his first save this season.

In the nightcap, Márquez (1-1) struck out six with a pair of walks.

Mets starter Joey Lucchesi allowed three runs and four hits over three innings in his first appearance since April 7 and his first start for New York.

Cubs 13, Braves 4

In Chicago, Kris Bryant and Willson Contreras each homered twice, and Chicago won on an afternoon when Atlanta returned Sean Kazmar Jr. to the major leagues for the first time in 13 years.

Javier Báez and David Bote also homered for the Cubs, who stopped a three-game losing streak. Trevor Williams (2-1) allowed one run and four hits in five innings.

Atlanta selected the contract of Kazmar, a 36-year-old infielder, from its alternate training site before the game. He pinch hit in the fifth inning grounded into a 4-6-3 double play. Kazmar had not played in the major leagues since Sept. 23, 2008, with the San Diego Padres.

The gap between big league appearances was the greatest since that of right-hander Ralph Winegarner, according to Elias Sports Bureau. Winegarner played on June 23, 1936, for the Cleveland Indians and did not return to the majors until July 7, 1949, with the St. Louis Browns — a span of 13 years and 14 days.

Hector Ynoa (0-1) gave up six runs and seven hits — including three homers — in four innings.

Astros 1, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Zack Greinke pitched eight sharp innings, rookie Taylor Jones drove in the only run and depleted Houston ended a six-game losing streak.

Greinke (2-1) allowed four hits and walked none. He struck



Tampa Bay Rays' Francisco Mejia follows through on a RBI double during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, Saturday, April 17, 2021, in New York. AP

out six, two on 67 mph curveballs. Ryan Pressly pitched the ninth for his first save.

Greinke finished the game with 2,705 career strikeouts. His teammate, Justin Verlander (18th at 3,013), and the Washington Nationals' Max Scherzer (22nd at 2,808) are the only active players ahead of him on the career list.

Chris Flexen (1-1) picked up the loss as Houston snapped Seattle's three-game winning streak. He allowed 10 hits through six innings, striking out three with no walks.

Nationals 6, Diamondbacks 2

In Washington, Yan Gomes homered off Luke Weaver (1-1), drove in two runs and became the first major league catcher to throw out Tim Locastro on a steal attempt after 29 consecutive swipes to start his career, and Washington strung together consecutive wins for the first time this season. Locastro was thrown out making a dive into second base in the third inning and left the game with a dislocated left pinkie finger.

Erick Fedde (1-1) tied his career high with nine strikeouts in five innings for Washington, which is 5-7. He gave up one run and five hits.

Blue Jays 5, Royals 1, 1st game

Royals 3, Blue Jays 2, 2nd game

In Kansas City, Mo., Steven Matz (3-0) held Kansas City without a hit into the sixth inning, and Jonathan Davis and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. homered off Mike Minor (1-1) for Toronto in the seven-inning

doubleheader opener.

Matz allowed only a pair of walks before Nicky Lopez's bloop to left with one out in the sixth. Matz gave up Andrew Benintendi's two-out double later in the inning and wound up pitching six innings with five strikeouts.

In the nightcap, the Royals followed spot-starter Ervin Santana with four relief pitchers before Salvador Perez's two-out, walk-off homer in a 3-2 win over Toronto.

Greg Holland (2-1) was the last of the relievers in Game 2 for Kansas City, working around an error in the seventh inning to keep the game tied at 2. Joel Payamps (0-1) then retired Whit Merrifield and Benintendi in the bottom half before Perez sent a pitch splashing into the left-field fountains to earn the double-header split.

Cardinals 9, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Yadier Molina hit two home runs, doubled and drove in four runs, and Nolan Arenado and Paul DeJong also homered for St. Louis.

Ryan Helsley (1-0) allowed a run in 1 2/3 innings of relief to earn the victory. St. Louis won for just the second time in its last seven games, breaking the game open with six runs in the third off Matt Moore (0-1). Moore recorded consecutive outs to start the frame before a two-out barrage.

Rhys Hoskins had three hits and Alec Bohm drove in two runs for the Phillies, who played without Bryce Harper. The Phillies star outfielder sat out after waking up Saturday with tightness in

his lower back.

Red Sox 7, White Sox 4

In Boston, wearing their new blue-and-yellow uniforms, Boston beat Chicago when Marwin Gonzalez homered to key a four-run rally in the eighth inning.

The uniforms — lacking any red — honor the Boston Marathon with the colors that stretch across the finish line of the famous race. They featured yellow tops with powder-blue lettering across the front, numbers on the back and caps, with white pants. Boston was the first of seven big league teams that will don a new City Series look this season.

Gonzalez homered into Boston's bullpen off Cody Heuer (1-1). J.D. Martinez drew a bases-loaded walk off reliever José Ruiz before Xander Bogaerts' ground-rule hit dropped in down the right-field line before bouncing into the stands.

Athletics 7, Tigers 0

In Oakland, Calif., Matt Olson, Aramis García and Mark Canha each homered and Oakland shut out Detroit for a second straight game while winning its seventh win in a row.

After Oakland's 3-0 victory Friday, Cole Irvin (1-2) struck out six, didn't walk a batter and allowed four hits over six innings to earn his first victory since joining the A's. The last time the A's blanked the Tigers on back-to-back days was in June 1973 when Ken Holtzman and Catfish Hunter did it on Oakland's way to the second of three straight World Series championships.

Brewers 7, Pirates 1

In Milwaukee, Brett Anderson pitched seven effective innings and Milwaukee built a big lead early and breezed past Pittsburgh.

Jackie Bradley Jr. hit a lead-off single in the first inning and the Brewers went on to score five times, with every run coming with two outs. Bradley, who had three hits, tripled and scored in the second as Milwaukee made it 7-0.

Anderson (2-1) allowed one unearned run and six hits, walking one and striking out three. The Pirates' run scored on one of three throwing errors by shortstop Luis Urias.

Lakers hold off NBA-leading Jazz in OT



LOS ANGELES (AP) — Dennis Schröder hit the tying basket to force overtime and finished with 25 points, and the Los Angeles Lakers held off the Utah Jazz 127-115 on Saturday in a game between short-handed teams.

Schröder got by Royce O'Neale for a layup with 3 seconds remaining to tie it at 110 and force overtime after the Lakers got outscored 28-16 in the fourth.

Andre Drummond added 27 points and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 25 points for the Lakers, who blew a 14-point lead early in the fourth before outscoring Utah 17-5 in the extra session.

"We clicked on all cylinders and we didn't allow adversity to get us out of our game," Drummond said. "The chemistry is getting there."

The NBA-leading Jazz were without injured starters Donovan Mitchell, Mike Conley and Rudy Gobert. Mitchell will be out at least a week with a sprained right ankle he sustained in a win over Indiana on Friday night. An MRI showed there was no structural damage.

Jordan Clarkson led Utah with 27 points against his former team. Ersan Ilyasova added a season-high 20 points before fouling out in overtime and Joe Ingles had 20 points and a career-high-tying 14 assists. Bojan Bogdanovic had 19 points as Utah's two-game winning streak ended.

"We're missing four pretty important guys," Ingles said. "For most of the game, we did a pretty good job. We were one stop away from winning the game."

Injured Lakers superstars Anthony Davis and LeBron James watched in street clothes. But the Lakers had new addition Drummond and Markieff Morris back in the lineup, along with Kyle Kuzma and Schröder. All four had been dealing with various ailments.

"He's always in the moment," Morris said of Schröder. "Tonight we needed him to score more. He made some great plays at the end of the game. We're getting to the point where everybody knows each other's game. We need that camaraderie."

Clarkson hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 8.7 seconds left in regulation. He had 10 points in the fourth, when the Jazz opened with an 18-4 run to get within two. Schröder scored the Lakers' final six points of regulation.

"We made more in-game adjustments than we have all year just to counter their attack," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "To have a team storm back



AP Utah Jazz forward Georges Niang, left, shoots as Los Angeles Lakers forward Kyle Kuzma defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, April 17, 2021, in Los Angeles.

Bulls 106, Cavaliers 96

In Chicago, Nikola Vucevic scored 25 points, Lauri Markkanen added 16 off the bench and the Chicago Bulls beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 106-96 on Saturday night to snap a five-game losing streak.

Denzel Valentine had 13 points off the bench as the Chicago reserves accounted for 45 points.

The Bulls were playing for a second straight game without All-Star Zach LaVine, who is in the NBA's health and safety protocol and not with the team.

"We've got to figure it out," Markkanen said. "Even without him, I still think we have a lot of talent."

Colin Sexton and Darius Garland had 22 points apiece as the Cavaliers dropped their second straight and fourth in five games.

Spurs 111, Suns 85

In Phoenix, Rudy Gay scored 19 points, Drew Eubanks added 13 points and 13 rebounds in his first start of the season and the short-handed San Antonio Spurs had a surprisingly dominant 111-85 win over the Phoenix Suns on Saturday night.

The Spurs were playing without a handful of their main rotation players, including leading scorer DeMar DeRozan, but still controlled almost the entire game. The 6-foot-9 Eubanks has had an

increased role over the past few weeks and finished with his second double-double in the past four games.

"We don't have anyone on our team that's concerned with their stats, their play. We're just focused on winning," Eubanks said. "My job is to bring energy."

Rookie Devin Vassell added 18 points on 7-of-9 shooting, including 4 of 6 on 3-pointers. The Spurs improved to 27-28 this season.

Grizzlies 128, Bucks 115

In Milwaukee, Grayson Allen is helping the Memphis Grizzlies produce an ideal start to their longest road trip in two decades.

Allen shot 7 of 10 from 3-point range and scored 26 points to lead six Grizzlies in double figures as Memphis beat the Milwaukee Bucks 128-115 on Saturday. Allen's seven 3-pointers represented a career high.

Memphis has begun its seven-game road swing by winning on back-to-back nights. The Grizzlies opened the trip Friday with a 126-115 victory at Chicago.

This will mark the first time the Grizzlies have played as many as seven straight road games since the franchise moved to Memphis for the 2001-02 season. The Vancouver Grizzlies had an eight-game trip in March 2001.

The Grizzlies have a better road record (16-10) than home mark (13-16) this season.

Wizards 121, Pistons 100

In Washington, Russell Westbrook had his 25th triple-double of the season, Bradley Beal scored 37 points and the Washington Wizards beat the Detroit Pistons 121-100 on Saturday night.

Westbrook finished with 15 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists in the fourth straight win for Washington (23-33), which continues its late-season push.

"We're showing that we can put it together," Beal said. "There's not one thing that you can point your finger to that we're doing exceptionally well. We're figuring everything out. We're growing as the year's gone on."

"My main concern is trying to get this playoff push and get us in as best as we possibly can."

Westbrook has 171 triple-doubles, 10 shy of Oscar Robertson's record.

Isaiah Stewart and Frank Jackson each scored 19 points for Detroit. Josh Jackson scored 17 as the Pistons failed in their attempt to win consecutive games for only the third time this season.

and take the lead and (us) not panic is definitely something we can draw on going forward. We'll have this experience to know that we'll prevail."

The Lakers took the game's first double-digit lead on a jumper by Morris late in the third, capping a 7-0 run and stretching their lead to 84-74. The Jazz was held to 20 points, their lowest quarter of the game.

Los Angeles put on a dunking exhibition for the 1,710 fans in the stands. Drummond dribbled in from half-court and put down a one-handed jam to open the third, one of his three in the quarter. Alex Caruso and Montrezl Harrell had showy slams, too. Schröder tried to

get in on the action, charging in but missing. He ended up sliding head-first out of bounds to end the period with the Lakers ahead 94-82.

Celtics, 119, Warriors

In Boston, Jayson Tatum got into a shootout with Stephen Curry, and Celtics came out on top.

Tatum scored 44 points—the second-highest total in his career—and Kemba Walker made a 3-pointer with 24 seconds left to help Boston beat the Golden State Warriors 119-114 on Saturday night.

"He's incredible," Walker said. "He can score with the best of them. He's making the right plays out there. He was

unbelievable. We needed every bucket he had tonight."

Curry scored 47, including a 3-pointer to cut Golden State's deficit to two points with 19 seconds left. But he missed a shot from just inside half court on the Warriors' next possession, dooming their last chance for a win.

The Celtics earned their sixth straight victory and their eighth in their last nine.

Andrew Wiggins scored 22 points and Draymond Green had 10 rebounds for the Warriors, who had won four in a row and led by as many as 16 points in the second quarter before Boston ran off 21 of the next 23 points to take the lead in the third.

Butler calls struggling Heat 'soft,' urges 'bully ball'

MIAMI (AP) — The Miami Heat are losing, and their highest-paid player isn't happy.

Jimmy Butler labeled the reigning Eastern Conference champions as "soft" after a loss in Minnesota on Friday night, Miami's third straight defeat and one that dropped the Heat to 28-28 with 16 games left in the regular season.

It was Miami's 10th loss in its last 16 games.

"It's not frustrating because we do it so often," Butler said. "It's almost like it's expected, in a bad way to put it. We just think we're such a good team, and then reality hits us, we're humbled. And I'm glad because that's what this game does for you. Home, away, no matter what opponent you're playing against, you just stroll into the game thinking you're nice, you're good, this is what happens.

"I'm glad it happened to

us," he added. "And if we don't fix it, I hope it continues to happen to us."

Minnesota entered Friday with the NBA's worst record. The 119-111 win allowed the Timberwolves to pass Houston and escape the league's basement for the first time since Jan. 5. Minnesota out-rebounded Miami 45-33 and outscored the Heat 23-5 in second-chance opportunities.

"We're just being soft. That's it," Butler said after the loss to one of his former clubs. "Not getting into bodies, scared of some contact. Soft overall."

Miami hosts Brooklyn on Sunday. The Heat entered the weekend in the No. 7 spot in the East, 1 1/2 games behind sixth-place New York in the race to avoid the play-in round that will begin the postseason.

It has been a roller-coaster

season for Miami. Key players — Butler among them — missed time because of virus-related issues early, one factor in the 7-14 start. The Heat then went 15-4, resembling the team that went to last season's NBA Finals.

And now comes this slide. Miami has maintained high hopes of being a playoff contender again, especially after making a trade last month for former All-Star Victor Oladipo. But he has appeared in only four games with Miami and is now sidelined by a recurrence of knee issues. The team hasn't specified the latest problem or if Oladipo will play again this season.

Miami is 4-20 when allowing 109 points or more, 24-8 when holding teams to 108 or less.

"We've got to get stops and that's the bottom line," Heat center Bam Adebayo

said. "Offense will take care of itself."

Butler also said he wants more from Adebayo, the 2020 All-Star who signed a \$163 million, five-year extension that begins next season.

"I want Bam to attack the rim because nobody can stay in front of him," Butler said. "Nobody can stay in front of him. Go. You're going to get fouled or you're going to dunk on somebody. That's cool. I love him shooting midrange jump shots too, but he lets people off the hook. Play bully ball. I like bully ball."

Butler has declined to speak with reporters after several recent games, but did not hold back Friday.

"I can't tell you which way we're going to go," Butler said. "I don't know what team is going to show up on any given night."

Jayton, Windsor nip foes in 400m

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jayton Dela Cruz of Kagman Elementary School and Windsor Gross of Saipan International School barely squeaked by other contenders last Friday in the resumption of the 2021 Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship at the Oleai Track and Field.

Dela Cruz won the boys 9U 400m in a time of 1:41, a fraction of a second ahead of runners-up Zane Palacios (1:43) and Ashton Manalo (1:44) also both of Kagman.



In the girls 9U 400m, Gross cleared the finish line in 1:36 barely ahead of Kagman's

Jemelyn Jones (1:39) and teammate Leilani Ruszala (1:41).

In the boys 12U 400m, Brilliant Star School's Moshe Sikkel smoked the competition with a time of 1:08. Agape Christian Academy's Danny Cheng was second in 1:20, while SIS' Finn Altizer was third in 1:21:54.

SIS' Suki Peng won the girls 12U 400m by clocking in at 1:26 followed by Arriola (1:26) Kagman's Pualani Dela Cruz (1:29) and SIS' Faith Arriola (1:30:42).



Top seeds prevail in Day 1 of junior championships

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Top seeds remained perfect in the first day of the 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

In the boys 18 singles, top seed Ji Min Woo didn't even break into a sweat in his 6-0, 6-0 win over Jun Wong. Third seed Sean Lee had a bit of trouble against David Min Soo Kwan before prevailing, 6-2, 6-5 (retired). No. 4 Seon Geon Heo also made quick work of Daniel Dong Yeon Kang, 6-1, 6-1, while second seed Sam Ryu retired Andy Kim, 6-1, 3-1.

In the girls 18 singles, Serin Chung and Hye Jin Elliot blanked their respective opponents. The latter beat Sei Yul Hong, 6-0, 6-0, while the former beat Yebih Shin with the same score.

In the boys 16 singles, Cody



Shimizu and Min Seong Kim advanced to the next round after beating Sam Culp (6-2, 6-2) and Andrew Chung (6-0, 7-6 (5)), respectively.

No. 2 Wataru Kadokura got the better of Simon Tang in the boys 14 singles, 6-3, 6-2, while Henry Choi blasted Vladimir Van Der Mas, 6-0, 6-1, in the same age group.

Landon Pudney (6-2, 6-4

over Taher Shakir, Henry Yeom (6-4, 6-4 over Ryan Choi), Ian Chai (6-2, 6-2 over Jihun Park), and Emmon Tang (2-6, 6-3, 11-9 over Stephen Yeom) were all also Day 1 winners in the boys 12 singles.

In the boys 10 singles, Nahn Su beat Michael Min Joon, 6-4, while Quido Lucas Jambor defeated Jin Ho Park, 6-1.

Rollers Black coach Chioni Dela Cruz said his boys overcoming Ol'Aces' twice-to-beat advantage in the finals showed they have character. "I believe that my 17U boys were hungry enough to pull it off. Just like what we worked on in practice. The boys were able to get easy baskets at the rim, while maintaining their high percentage shooting through the drills of coach Joe Diaz last Tuesday/Thursday. I believe that they worked hard enough to pull this off! They're the defending champions for a reason," he said.

What's more impressive is Rollers Black was able to achieve the feat despite missing starting center and Regular Season MVP Merrick Toves, who is injured and missed both championship games.

"Despite Ol'Aces' twice-to-beat advantage, I knew my boys would pull it off after

going at it a few times in our scrimmages against my U19 team. With Ol'Aces being the contenders that they are, coach Joe Diaz and I made sure the boys were ready for any challenges they might've faced in this championship run. Despite the injury of one of our key players, Merrick Toves, our boys stayed confident and filled in that missing piece resulting in our two victories!"

Ol'Aces coach Preston Basa, for his part, said he's proud of his Ol'Aces team for not giving up despite facing a more than 20-point advantage late in the second half of the do-or die finals game.

"It was a great effort by the kids. Although we fell short, we are happy for them. They fought hard and did not give up. We were down by 20 points and for our boys to stay composed and not let up was great to see. We look forward

MARK RABAGO
No. 2 Wataru Kadokura serves against Simon Tang in the 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament's boys 14 singles last Saturday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

In the girls 14 singles, Anna Jieun Kwon was a 6-1, 6-0 victor over Isa Nishitani, while Savita Sikkel zeroed Anna Lee, 6-0, 6-0. The lone girls 12 singles match had Jeong Bin Park advance with a 6-2, 6-0 triumph over Eun Park.

The boys 12 doubles had Jihun Park and Pudney team up in vanquishing Jambor and Su, 6-4, 6-4, while Ryan Vhoi and Emmon Tang dropped the first set before beating the Yeom brothers in a tiebreak, 1-6, 6-4, 10-8.

The 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament is being conducted with help from the Northern Marianas Islands Tennis Association.

to the future and taking this experience with us and using it to better ourselves as a team!"

In the awards ceremony immediately following the finals, Toves was hailed Regular Season MVP after amassing 37 points, 35 rebounds, 12 steals, 8 blocks, and 4 assists with King winning the Finals MVP after averaging 18.5 points in the two finals matches. Padayao was named Scoring Champ (50), while Rollers Black's Lucio Aldan was King of Assists (9) and King of Steals (14). Kagman Rollers' Reid Teregeyo was the King of Rebounds (42) and King of Blocks (8).

Rollers Black 52 – King 13, Naraja 13, Laraja 7, Pelisamen 6, Aldan 5, Diaz 4, Clari-dades 4.

Ol'Aces 47 – Padayao 23,

Atan 10, Fiden 5, Kapwich 4,

Laniyo 3, Wabol 2.

ah Arriola (18:04) and Gross (18:68) sandwiched Kagman's Jones (18:35), while in the 12U 100m ACS' Barbara Wang lorded it over her age group with a time of 16:49 followed by Pualani Dela Cruz (16:83) and Audrey White (17:28).

The longest race of the day saw ACS' Benjamin Cai top the boys 9U 1,500m with a time of 7:56. He was followed by BSS' Damien Camacho and Evan Poole with times of 8:07:04 and 8:07:21, respectively. In the 12U division, Sikkel (6:14) beat Cheng (6:22) with Rayviel Escarlan rounding out the Top 3 (7:48).

SIS swept the girls 9U 1,500m, with Beatrice Gross making like Mercury with a time of 8:30 and teammates Yummy Peng and Michelle Im coming in at 9:38 and 10:36, respectively.

Results of the softball throw will be published in tomorrow's issue of the Saipan Tribune.

The Public School System All Schools Track and Field Championship is being held in coordination with Northern Marianas Athletics.

Kagman swept the boys 9U 100m, with Prince Romolor (18:17), Ashton Manalo (18:40), and Jayton Dela Cruz (18:75) finishing 1-2-3. BSS almost duplicated Kagman's feat in the 12U with Aiden Camacho (14:27) and Sikkel (14:67) coming in first and second with ACS' Danny Cheng (15:61) preventing a BSS sweep.

In the girls 9U 100m, Neve-

NMI basketball group meeting, election April 26

The Mariana Islands Basketball Federation will be holding its general membership meeting on April 26 at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The meeting will start at 6pm and agenda will include updates on MIBF's programs and the 2022 Micronesian Games. MIBF president Lawrence Camacho and general secretary/development officer Elias Rangamar will also pro-

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up for the 10K Jedi Knight Category in the upcoming May The

'CRANK'

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Camacho has two months to prepare for his MMA comeback and he believes he has enough time to get ready and end his losing skid.

"I am very excited to have a decent amount of time to prep. I am also glad to have picked up cycling and running a whole lot during the downtime to really help with my endurance," the Guam-born, Saipan-raised MMA fighter.

The Marianas pride holds a 22-9 record and dropped his last two UFC bouts—bowing to Beneil Dariush in UFC Fight Night 162 last Oct. 26, 2019 via submission (rear-naked choke) and Justine Jaynes (via TKO), who replaced Frevola in the UFC on ESPN 11 that took place last June 20,

2020 in Las Vegas.

Frevola also lost his recent assignment (via unanimous decision) after falling to Russia's Arman Tsarukyan in FUC 257 in Abu Dhabi last Jan. 23 this year. Before facing Tsarukyan, Frevola was scheduled to battle Roosevelt Roberts in same UFC event where Camacho was supposed to square off against Weaver. However, the New York native was pulled out anew from the fight card after sustaining an injury a few days before the bout.

Despite this series of misfortunes, Camacho is not taking Frevola lightly.

"He's a grinder and he doesn't quit. We are the type of fighters that you have to put out to win the fight. It's going to be like an unstoppable force meeting an immovable object," Camacho said.

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opponents from the backcourt.

The ploy worked as Ol'Aces forced Rollers Black's ballhandlers to successive turnovers which they converted into easy fastbreak points. The searing rally by Ol'Aces whittled down the once-imposing spread to single digits with three minutes and change left in the contest. However, it was too little, too late as key baskets by Rollers Black stemmed the uprising and they were able to hold on to the 5-point win and raise the championship trophy.

King and Naraja shared team-high honors in the finale, scoring 13 points each, while Craig Padayao was simply brilliant in the loss, firing 23 markers with 15 of them in Ol'Aces' swashbuckling second-half rally.



Rays beat
Yankees 6-3,
drop New York
to AL-worst 5-9

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Jayton,
Windsor nip
foes in 400m

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Rollers Black sweeps Spring Madness



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rollers Black players and coach Chioni Dela Cruz pose for a group photo after winning the U17 championship of the Rollers Basketball Association 2021 Spring Madness League last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Rollers Black swept all four divisions of the Rollers Basketball Association 2021 Spring Madness League after its U17 team overcame a spirited late-game rally by Ol'Aces to the win Game 2 of their finals, 52-47, last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

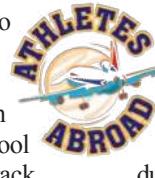
Tania breaks CNMI 3,000m record

Tania Tan has broken the CNMI record for the 3,000m with a time of 11:26:54, surpassing the 27-year-old record of 12:13.9, set by Carol Lynn Pierce in 1994 at the Micronesian Games in Guam.

Tan is a student at Fordham University where she is running both cross country and track. The Saipan International School alumnae ran for a new personal best last April 16 at the Stockton University Invite in Galloway, New Jersey, an NCAA-sanctioned event. Tan said that her goal going into the race was to try her hardest and hopefully earn a new personal best. Tan added, "I felt pretty confident going in because my training was going well and I felt good mentally and physically. However, I haven't run a 3,000m race in so long (since COVID-19 hit) so I had no expectations of how I would actually do. So when I saw my time after my



race, I couldn't believe that I broke my personal best time by almost one minute."



Tan is no stranger to competitive running in the CNMI. She is a veteran of the Saipan International School Cross Country and Track teams where she led the team in distance events. "Tania is a very passionate runner," said SIS headmaster Ron Snyder and Northern Marianas Athletics distance running coach, "She represented SIS well in all of our meets locally and made us proud in the many international competitions she raced in during her high school years. She is a role model to our up-and-coming squad of runners both male and female."

Previously, Rollers Black won the U19, U14, and U11 diadems of the tournament, but unlike those three divisions, coach Chioni Dela Cruz's U17 team had an uphill battle against Ol'Aces after their finals opponent topped the eliminations and had a twice-to-beat advantage in the championship.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Tania Tan, right, seen here running for Fordham University in a recent meet.

Tan was a two-time national runner for cross country at the Asia Pacific Cross Country Invitational as well as represented the CNMI in the 2018 Oceania Cross Country Championships in Australia, the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa, and the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships in 2018 where she set her previous PR of 12:20:99.

Robin Sapong, general secretary of NMA, added, "Tania continues to inspire female athletes in the CNMI even though she is away for college. She gathered a team of fellow classmates from SIS for the Run The Marianas virtual run, joined a Run Saipan team in the NMI Women's Run, and has signed

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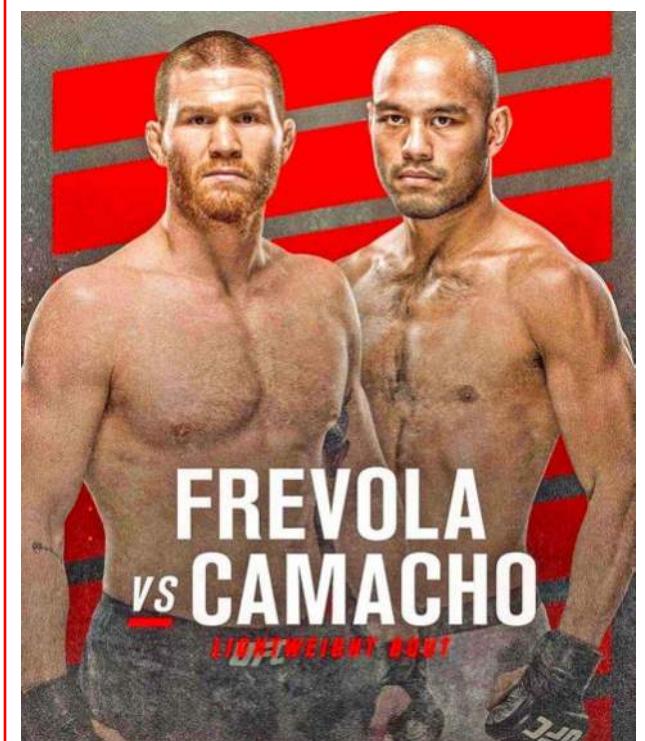


ning amok inside, Rollers Black dominated the Ol'Aces of coach Preston Basa and they opened up a 10-point lead at the half, 29-19.

Rollers Black's lead would swell to as much as 24 points in the second half before Basa called timeout and instructed his players to pressure their

With King hitting from outside and Leopoldo Naraja run-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frank "The Crank" Camacho, right, and Matt "The Steamrolla" Frevola appear in one of the promotional posters for the Ultimate Fighting Championship 263 set for June 12.

'The Crank' returns, faces former foe

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

lenge Frevola, it was Camacho's turn to withdraw from his duel against Brok "Chata" Tuska" Weaver in the UFC Fight Night 177 after contracting the same deadly virus.

With both fighters eager to return to the octagon cage via the Ultimate Fighting Championship 263 Figueiredo vs Moreno 2. Camacho's foe for the June 12 bout is Matt "The Steamrolla" Frevola, who incidentally is the same fighter paired against the Team Oyama standout in the UFC Fight Night 173 in Las Vegas about a year ago before the former was pulled out from the schedule the last minute after his cornerman was tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.

"I am excited for this matchup. He is tough as a nail and I fantasize about a tough, hard match like this. It's will not be easy to get the win and it will a 15-minute of fighting for every inch of victory. This will be a full display of MMA—grappling, wrestling, ground and pound, and striking," said the 31-year-old athlete.

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